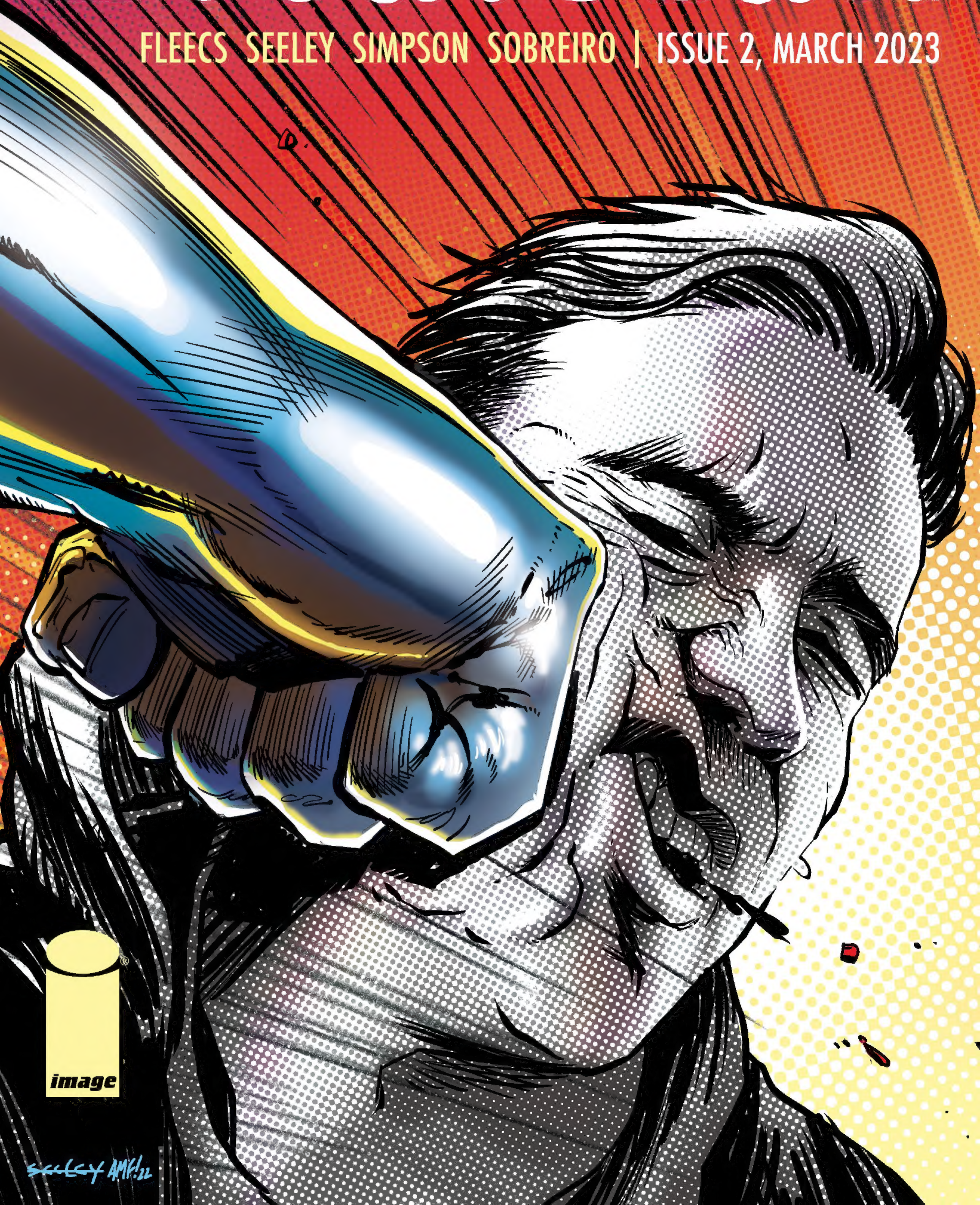
"LOCAL MAN might be the most inspired new comic of the year thus far."
COMICBOOK.COM

Local Man™

FLEECS SEELEY SIMPSON SOBREIRO | ISSUE 2, MARCH 2023



image™ comics presents:

"LOCAL MAN"

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and
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w/ colors by
BRAD SIMPSON

third gen art by
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w/ colors by
FELIPE SOBREIRO

Cover by
TONY & TIM

B cover by
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image™

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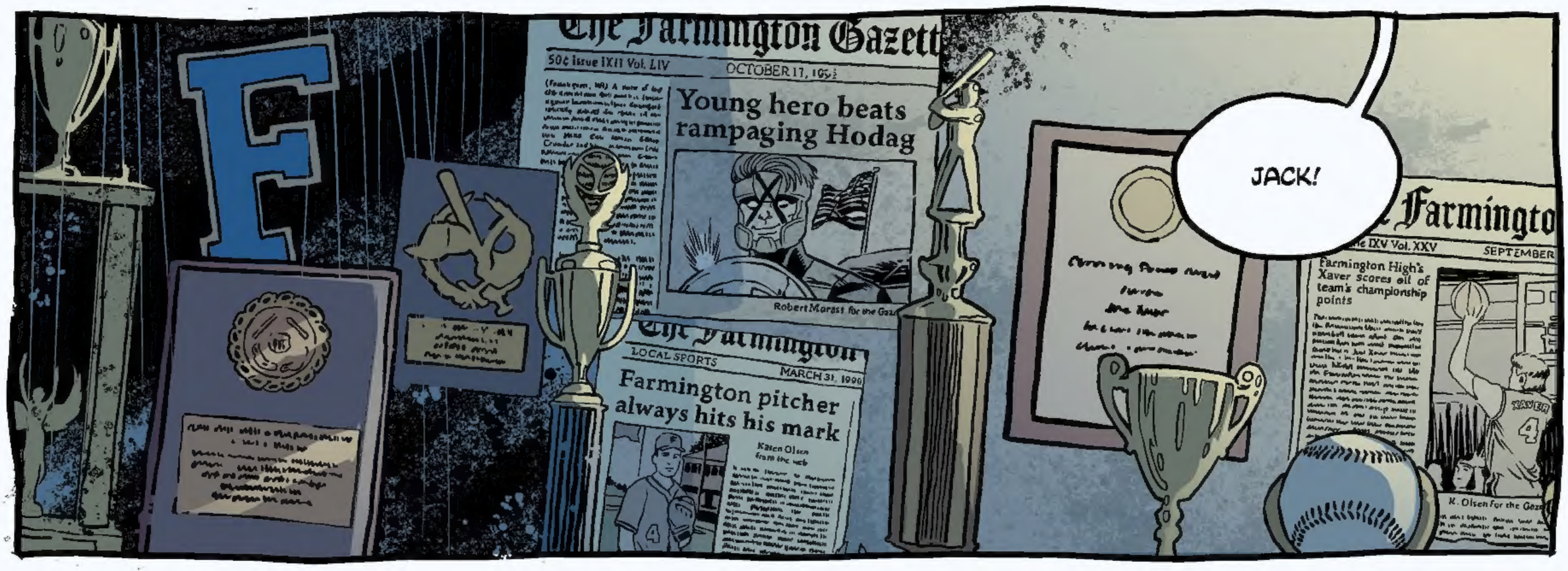
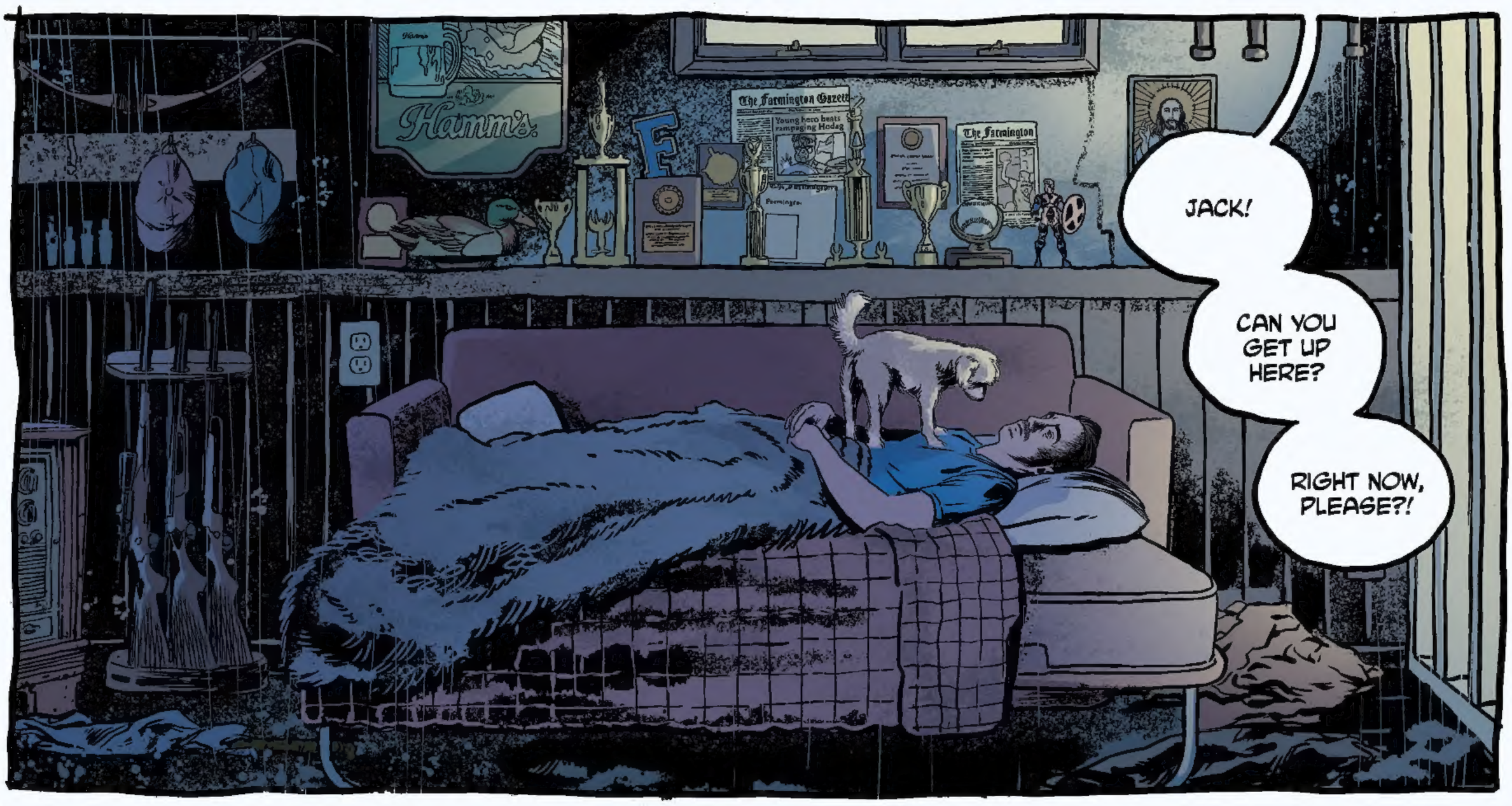
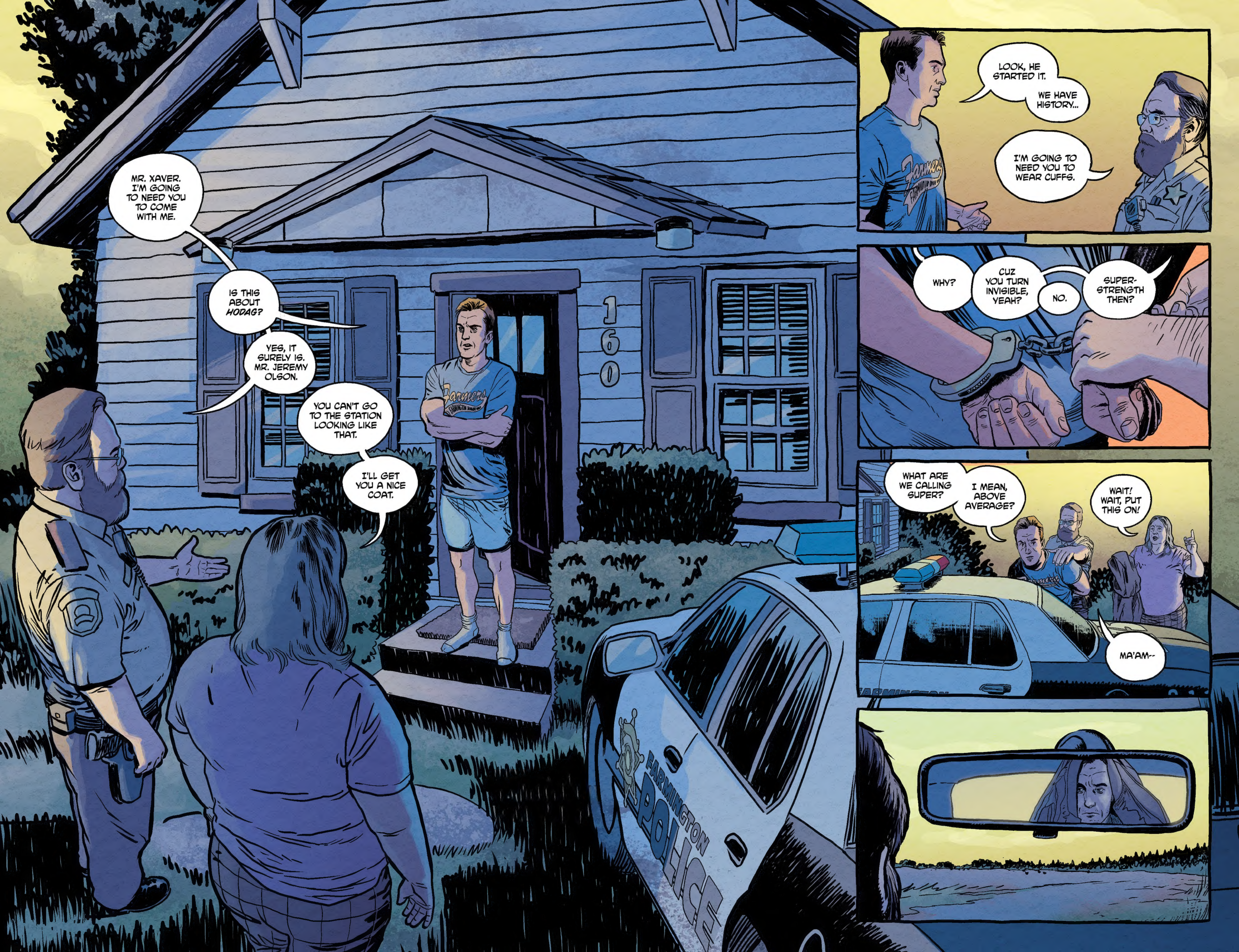
JACK!


The Farmington Gazette
50¢ Issue IXII Vol. LIV
OCTOBER 17, 1993
Young hero beats rampaging Hodag
Robert Morast for the Gazette
The Farmington
LOCAL SPORTS
MARCH 31, 1990
Farmington pitcher always hits his mark
Karen Olsen from the web
JACK!
Farmingto
Vol. XXV
SEPTEMBER
Farmington High's Xaver scores all of team's championship points
K. Olsen for the Gazette

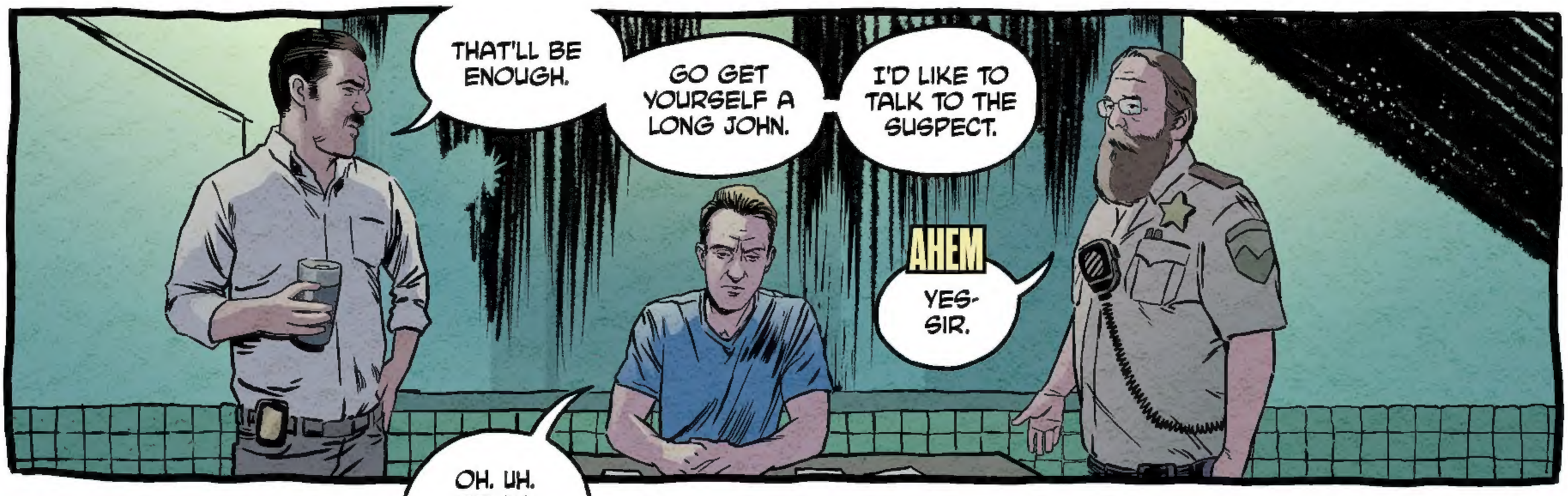
JACK!
HMMNH.


Hamm's
The Farmington Gazette
Young hero beats rampaging Hodag
The Farmington
JACK!
CAN YOU GET UP HERE?
RIGHT NOW, PLEASE?!


MR. XAVER. I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TO COME WITH ME.
IS THIS ABOUT HODAG?
YES, IT SURELY IS. MR. JEREMY OLSON.
YOU CAN'T GO TO THE STATION LOOKING LIKE THAT.
I'LL GET YOU A NICE COAT.
160
FARMINGTON POLICE
LOOK, HE STARTED IT.
WE HAVE HISTORY...
I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TO WEAR CUFFS.
WHY?
CUZ YOU TURN INVISIBLE, YEAH?
NO.
SUPER-STRENGTH THEN?
WHAT ARE WE CALLING SUPER?
I MEAN, ABOVE AVERAGE?
WAIT! WAIT, PUT THIS ON!
MA'AM--

FARMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
HODAG IS DEAD?!
JJ'S TRACTOR & TIRE

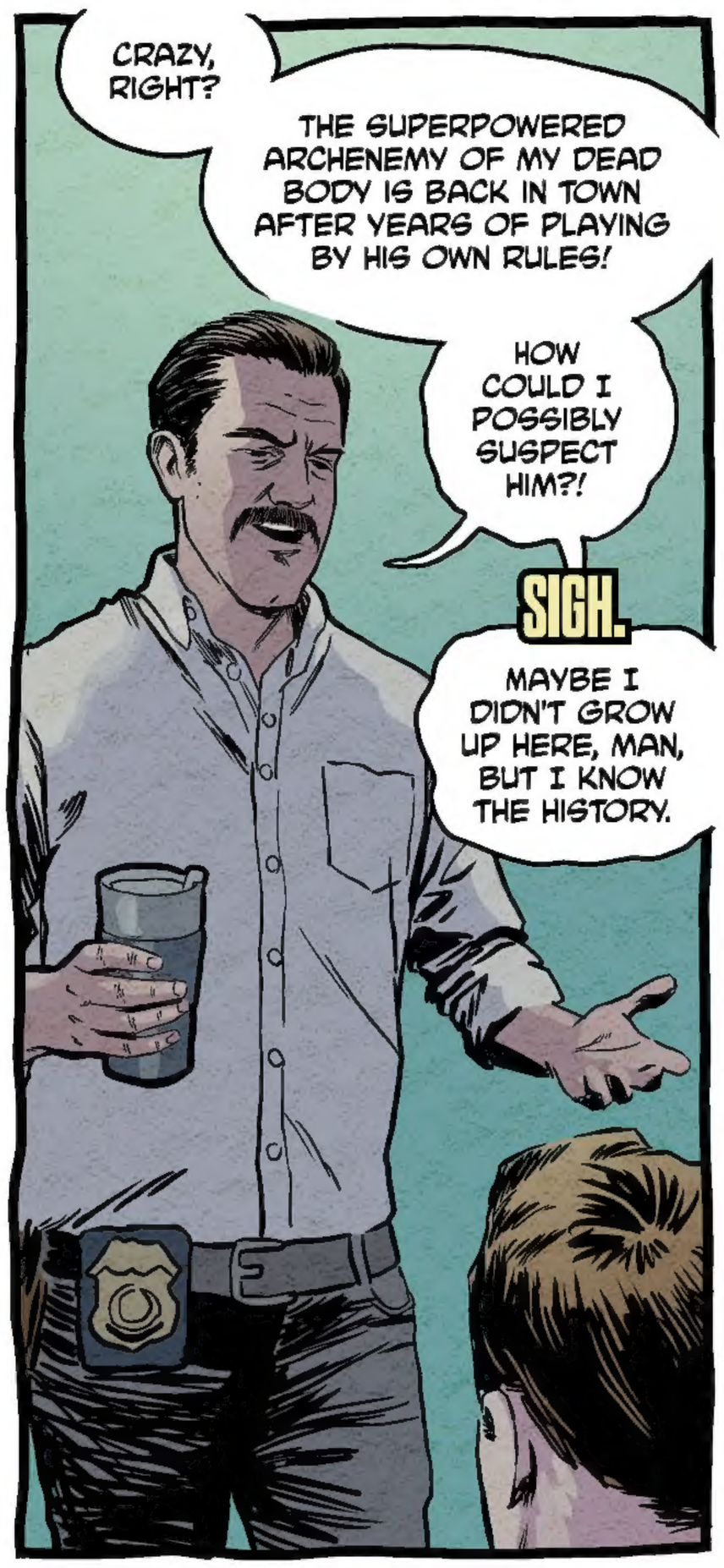
OH, JESUS CHRIST...
HEY NOW!
NONE A' THAT KIND OF SWEARIN' LIKE THAT, ESPECIALLY FROM IDOLATROUS--
OFFICER KOPECKI.


THAT'LL BE ENOUGH.
GO GET YOURSELF A LONG JOHN.
I'D LIKE TO TALK TO THE SUSPECT.
AHEM
YES-SIR.

OH. UH. BRIAN, RIGHT?
WELL, WOULD YA LOOK AT ME. THE FAMOUS GUY KNOWS WHO I AM.
THAT MAKE ME FAMOUS TOO?
AND IT'S CHIEF BUCHOLZ.
OKAY, CHIEF. YOUR WIFE AND I...
AHEM
I GREW UP HERE. SO WE'RE FRIENDS.
ON FACE-BOOK.

LOOK, WHEN I LEFT HODAG, HE WAS TOTALLY FINE.
HE AND I...

WAIT.
YOU THINK I KILLED HIM.

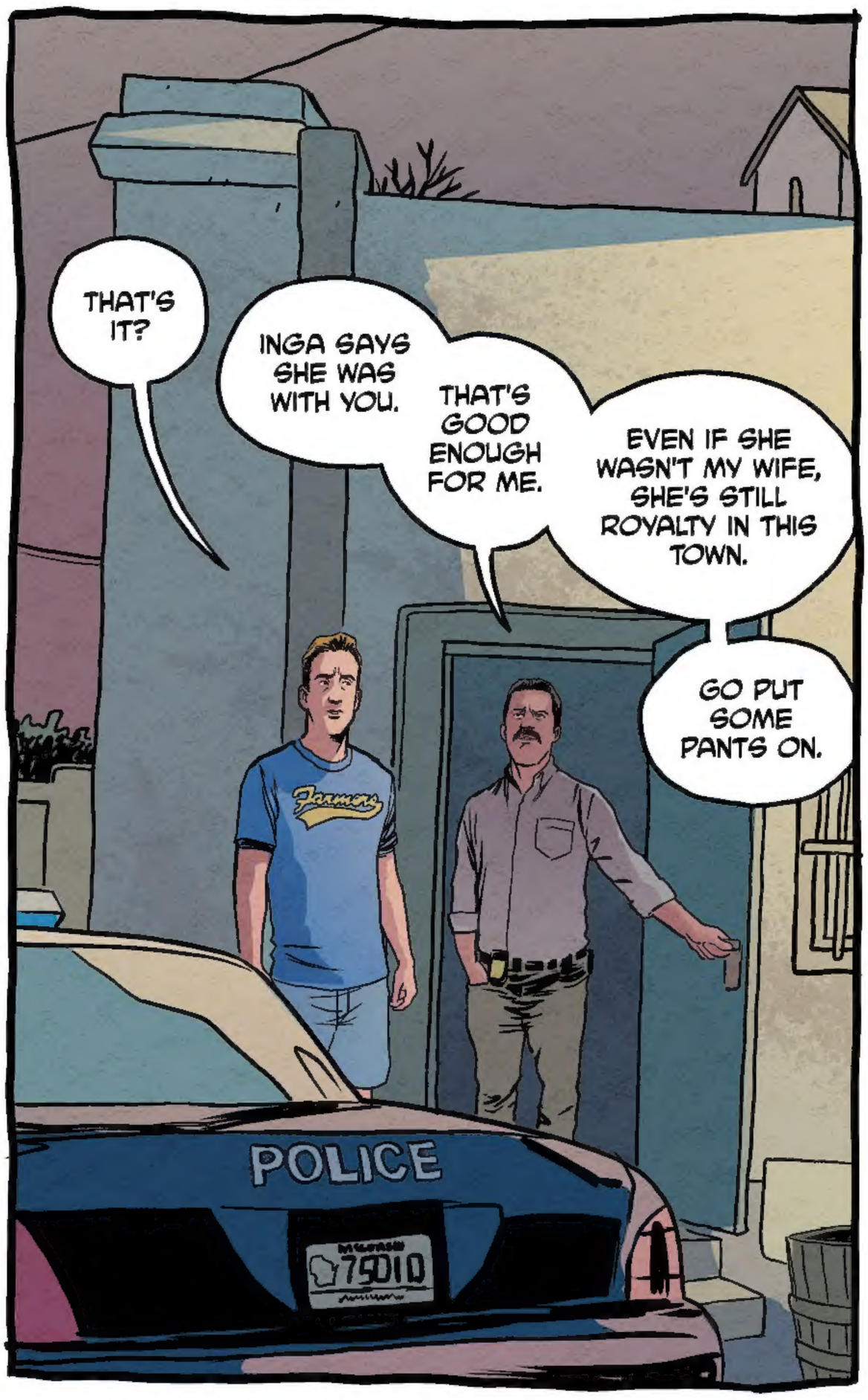

CRAZY, RIGHT?
THE SUPERPOWERED ARCHENEMY OF MY DEAD BODY IS BACK IN TOWN AFTER YEARS OF PLAYING BY HIS OWN RULES!
HOW COULD I POSSIBLY SUSPECT HIM?!
SIGH.
MAYBE I DIDN'T GROW UP HERE, MAN, BUT I KNOW THE HISTORY.

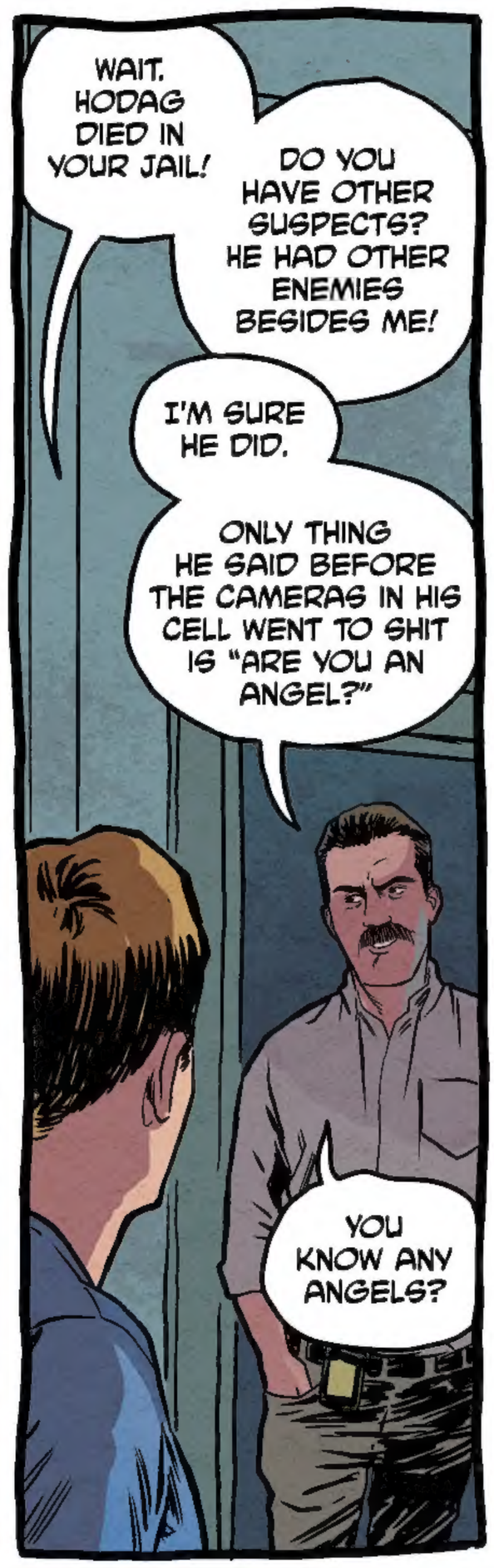
CHIEF... BRIAN.
HODAG AND I FOUGHT. A LOT. BUT...
WHATEVER YOU ALL THINK OF ME NOW...
I'M A GOOD GUY.
I FOUGHT FOR THIS COUNTRY. FOR TRUTH AND JUSTICE.

TRUTH AND JUSTICE, HUH?
YOU THINK THAT'S WHAT CAMO CRUSADER WOULDA CALLED IT?
EVERYBODY IN TOWN KNOWS WHY HE KICKED YOUR ASS TO THE CURB AFTER TWENTY-SOME YEARS.

INGA.
YOUR WIFE.
CALL HER.

SHE'S MY ALIBI.

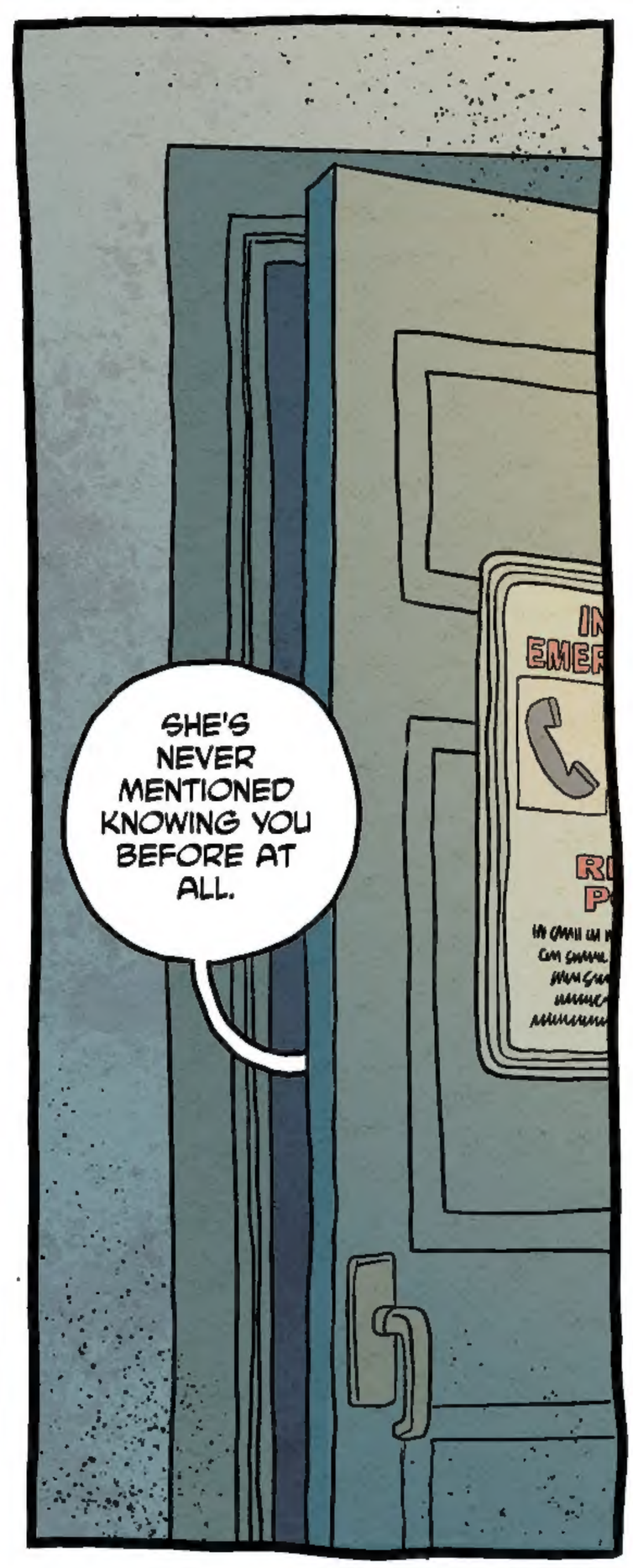

THAT'S IT?
INGA SAYS SHE WAS WITH YOU.
THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
EVEN IF SHE WASN'T MY WIFE, SHE'S STILL ROYALTY IN THIS TOWN.
GO PUT SOME PANTS ON.
POLICE
75010


WAIT. HODAG DIED IN YOUR JAIL!
DO YOU HAVE OTHER SUSPECTS? HE HAD OTHER ENEMIES BESIDES ME!
I'M SURE HE DID.
ONLY THING HE SAID BEFORE THE CAMERAS IN HIS CELL WENT TO SHIT IS "ARE YOU AN ANGEL?"
YOU KNOW ANY ANGELS?

LOOK, I GOT A DOG-MAULING AND A DISTURBANCE AT THE QUARRY TO DEAL WITH FIRST. REAL PEOPLE PROBLEMS.
WHICH REMINDS ME.
MY LOVELY WIFE MENTIONED YOU GOT SOME VISITORS LAST NIGHT.

SHE SAID THIRD GEN TOLD YA YOU AREN'T ALLOWED, BY COPYRIGHT LAW OF ALL THINGS, TO SUIT UP, AND DO ANY KIND OF HERO SHIT.
I GUESS THAT MEANS I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT YOU GETTING IN MY WAY, "CROSSJACK."
I KEEP TO MY OWN BUSINESS.

WAIT...
INGA DIDN'T MENTION US HAVING COFFEE LAST NIGHT BEFORE THIS?
FUNNY.
Y'KNOW WHAT'S FUNNIER?
911


SHE'S NEVER MENTIONED KNOWING YOU BEFORE AT ALL.

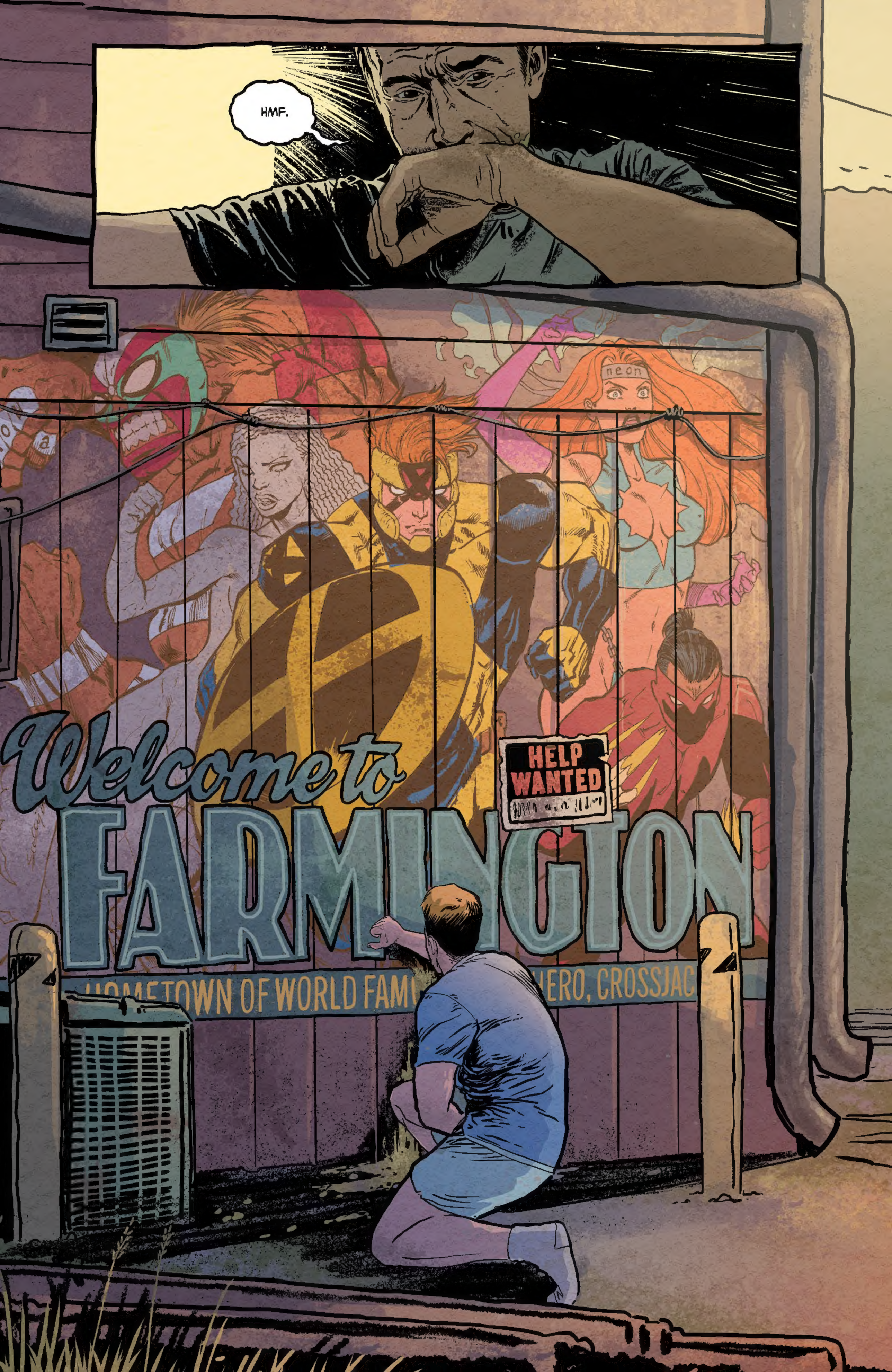
DON'T WORRY, I'LL GET MY OWN RIDE HOME.
GOT A DRVR GUY.
DICK.

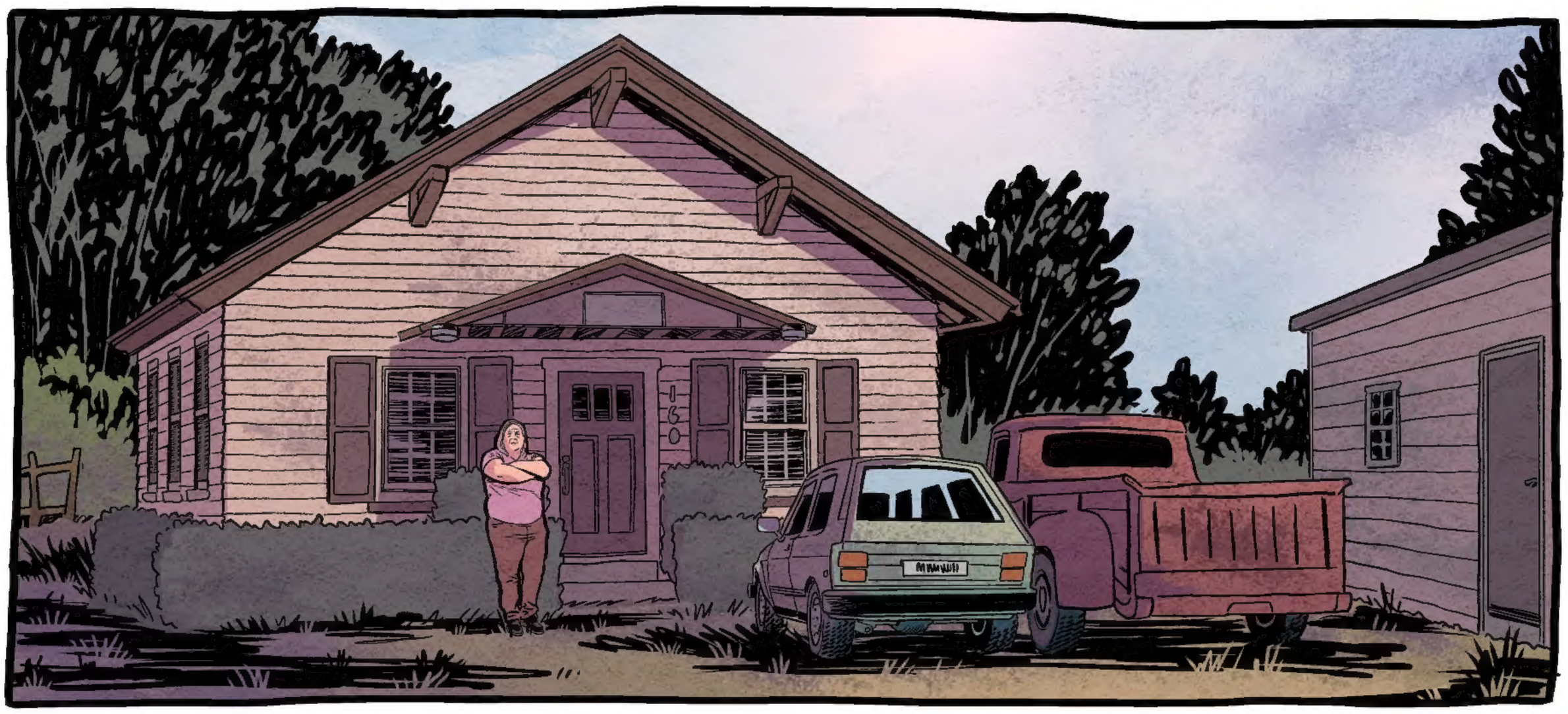
ARE...

ARE YOU AN ANGEL?

rumer
INGTON JUNIOR HIG

HERO
HRR-ROLFFF!!


HMF.
neon
Welcome to
FARMINGTON
HELP WANTED
HOMETOWN OF WORLD FAM
ERO, CROSSJAC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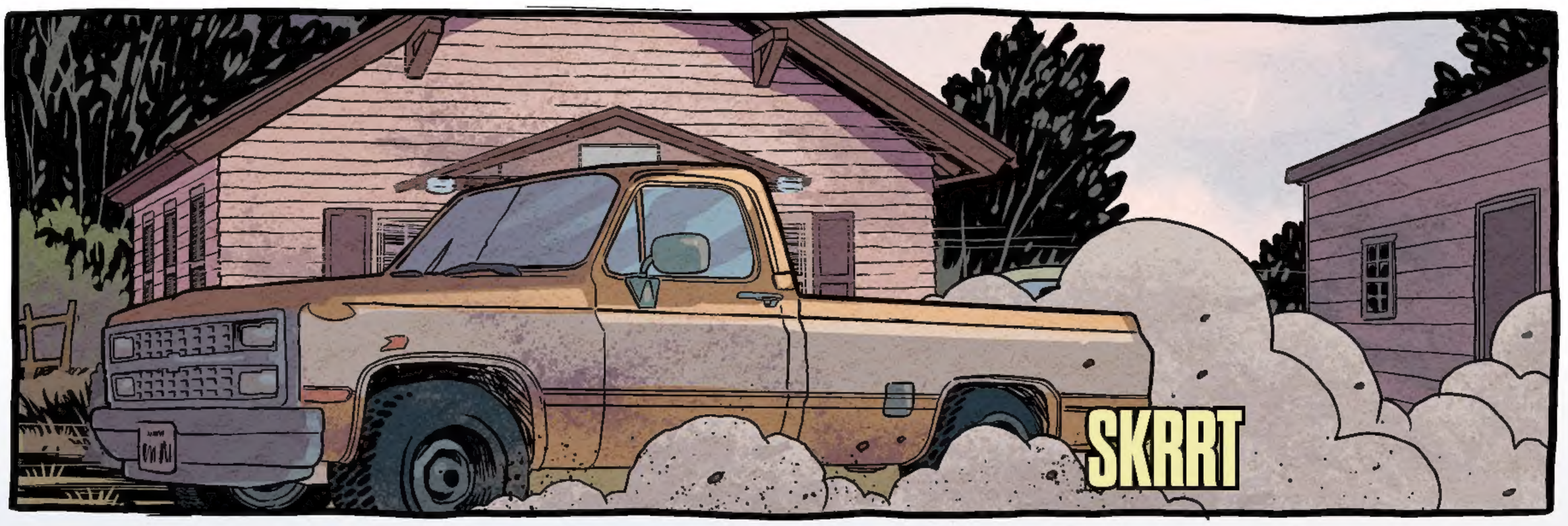
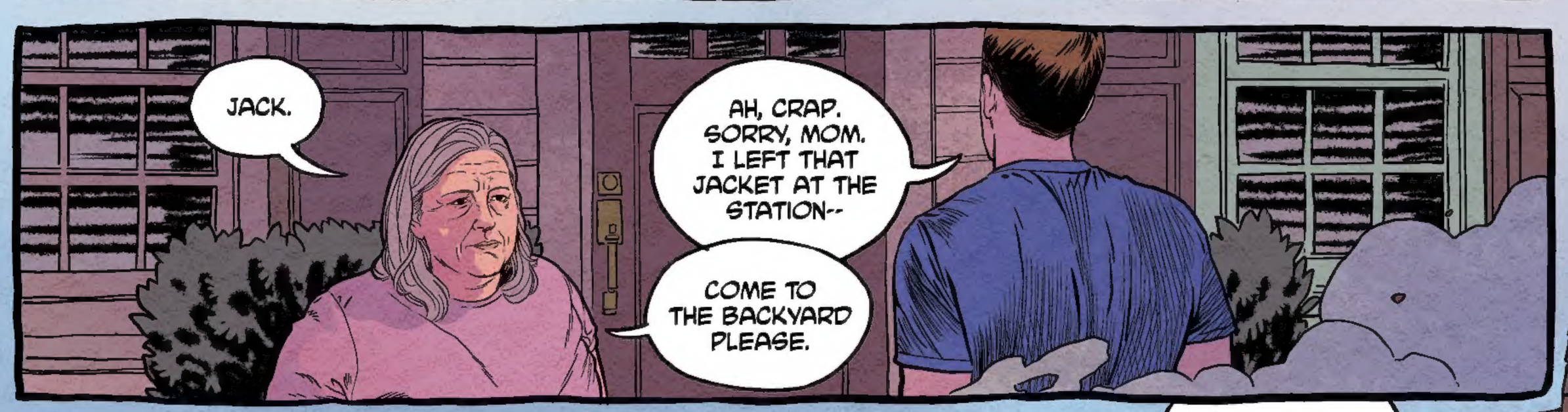
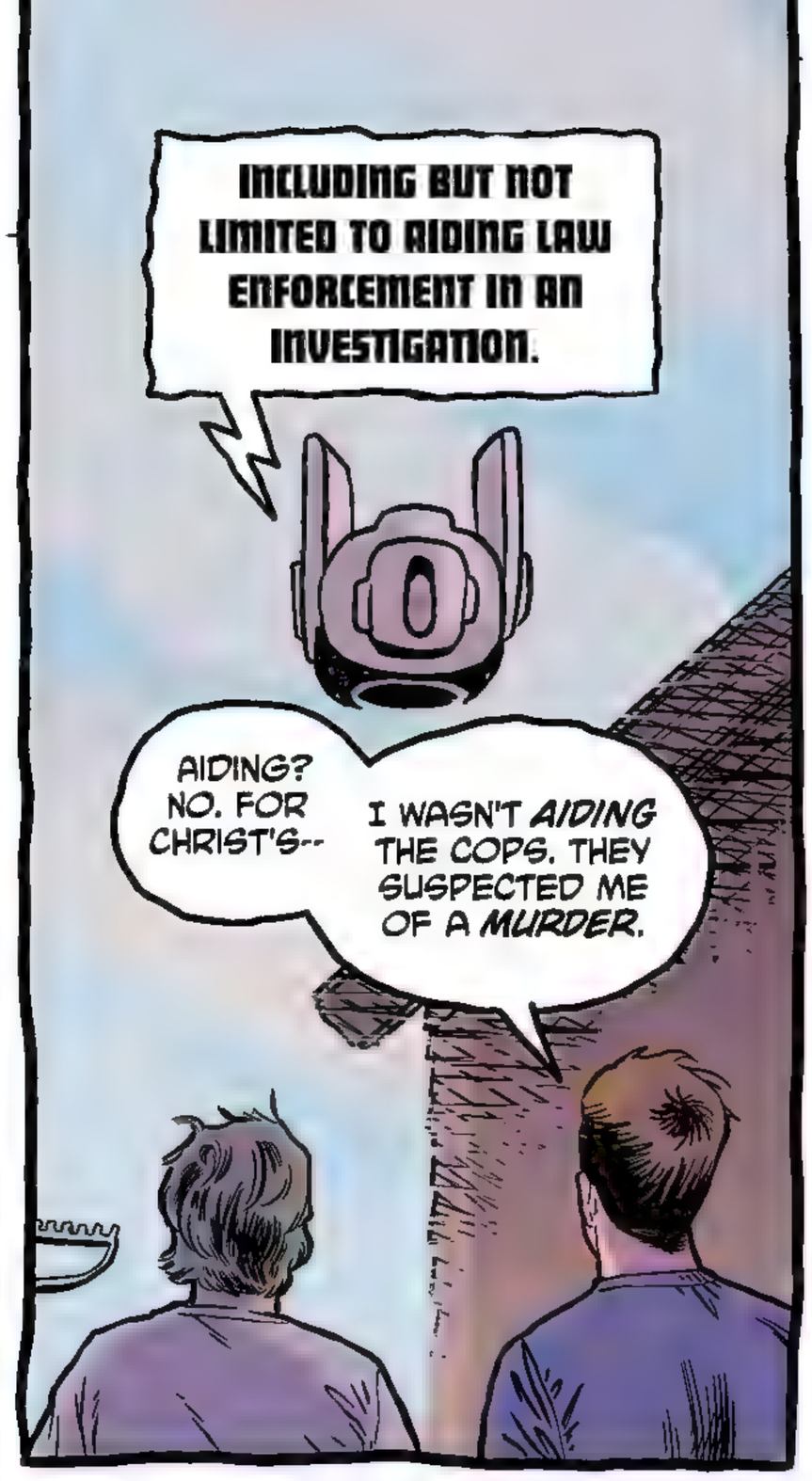

SKRRT

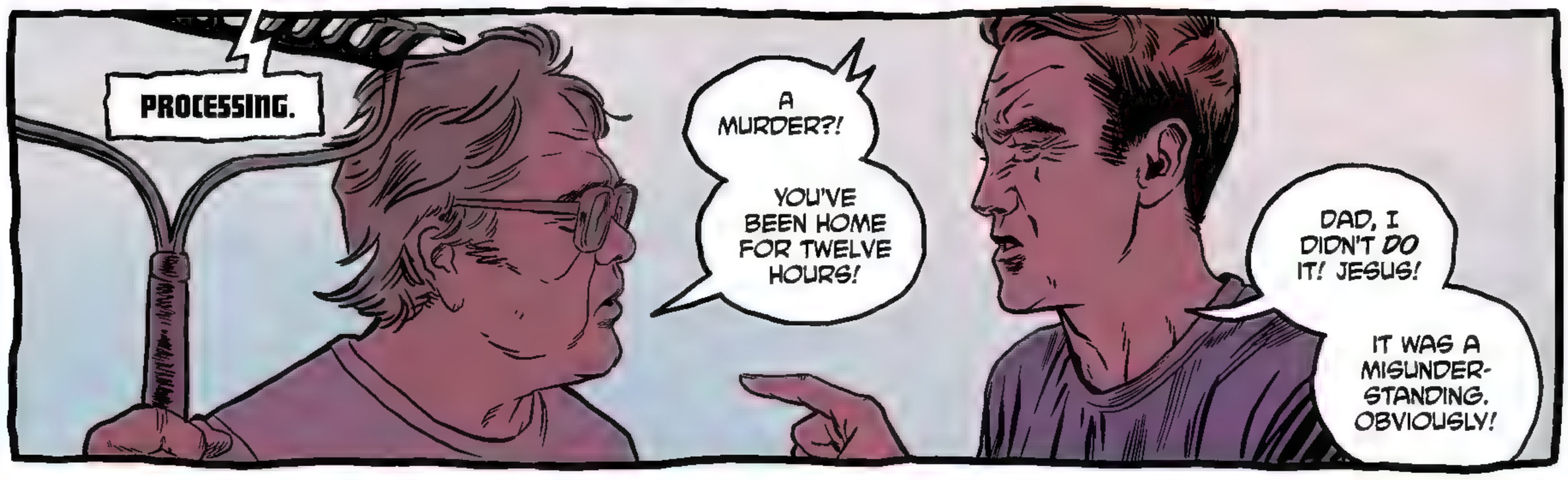
FUCK CROSSJACK!

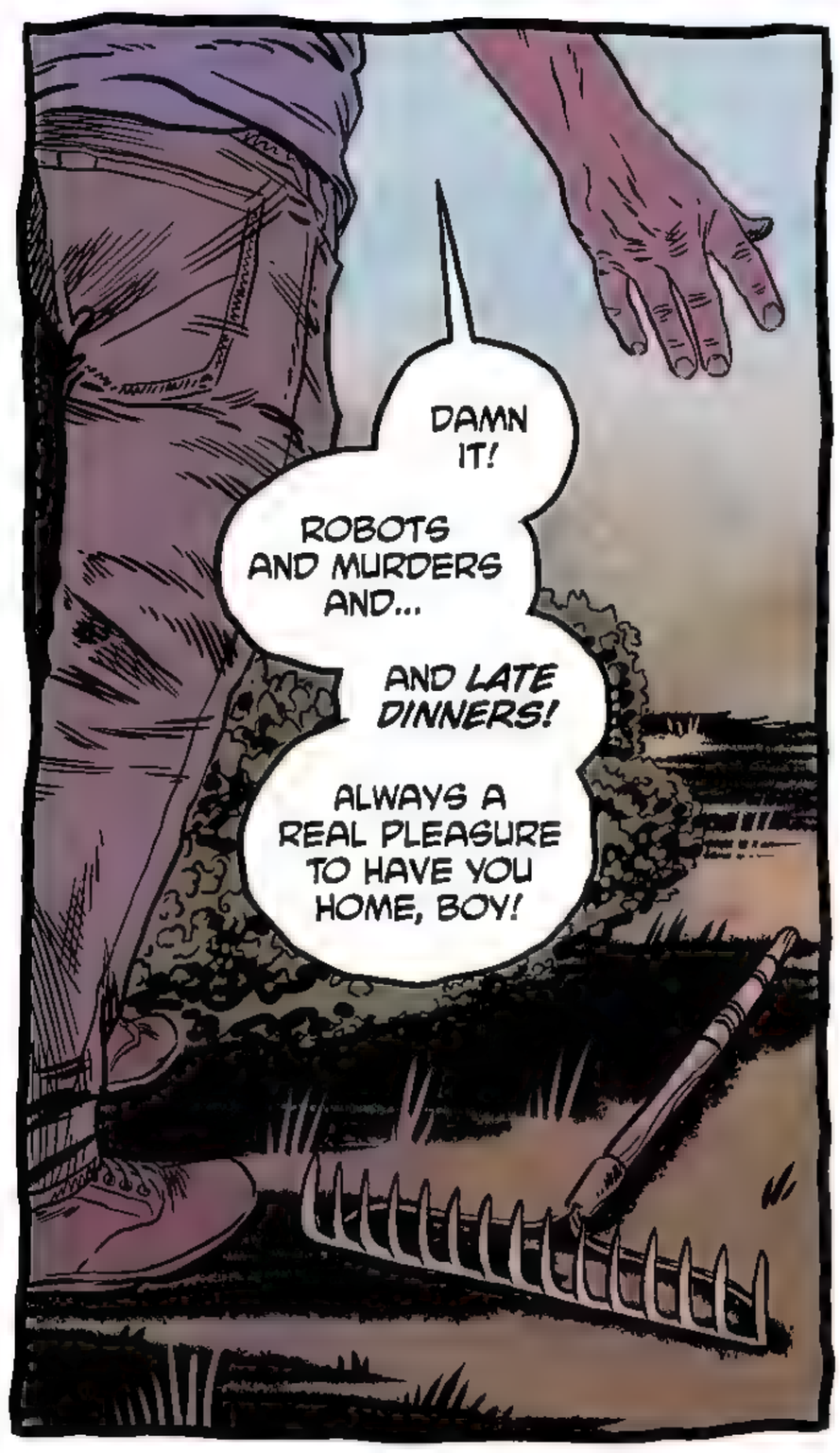

JACK.
AH, CRAP. SORRY, MOM. I LEFT THAT JACKET AT THE STATION--
COME TO THE BACKYARD PLEASE.

"YOUR FATHER WOULD LIKE AN EXPLANATION."
I WAS TRYNA DO SOME YARD WORK.
MY PEONIES NEED TO GET MOVED OUTTA THE SHADE...
VRRRRRRRRRRRMMMMMMMMMMMMM

BUT THIS DAMN THING WON'T GET OUTTA THE WAY!
CROSSJACK: YOU ARE IN VIOLATION OF CODE 1297 OF THE FIRST GEN CHARTER.
YOU ARE PROHIBITED FROM ANY SORT OF CRIMEFIGHTING, INVESTIGATING, OR HEROICS --
VRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM


INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO AIDING LAW ENFORCEMENT IN AN INVESTIGATION.
AIDING? NO. FOR CHRIST'S--
I WASN'T AIDING THE COPS. THEY SUSPECTED ME OF A MURDER.


PROCESSING.
A MURDER?!
YOU'VE BEEN HOME FOR TWELVE HOURS!
DAD, I DIDN'T DO IT! JESUS!
IT WAS A MISUNDER-STANDING. OBVIOUSLY!


DAMN IT!
ROBOTS AND MURDERS AND...
AND LATE DINNERS!
ALWAYS A REAL PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU HOME, BOY!

A REAL DAMN PLEASURE!
BARK!

RECALIBRATING.

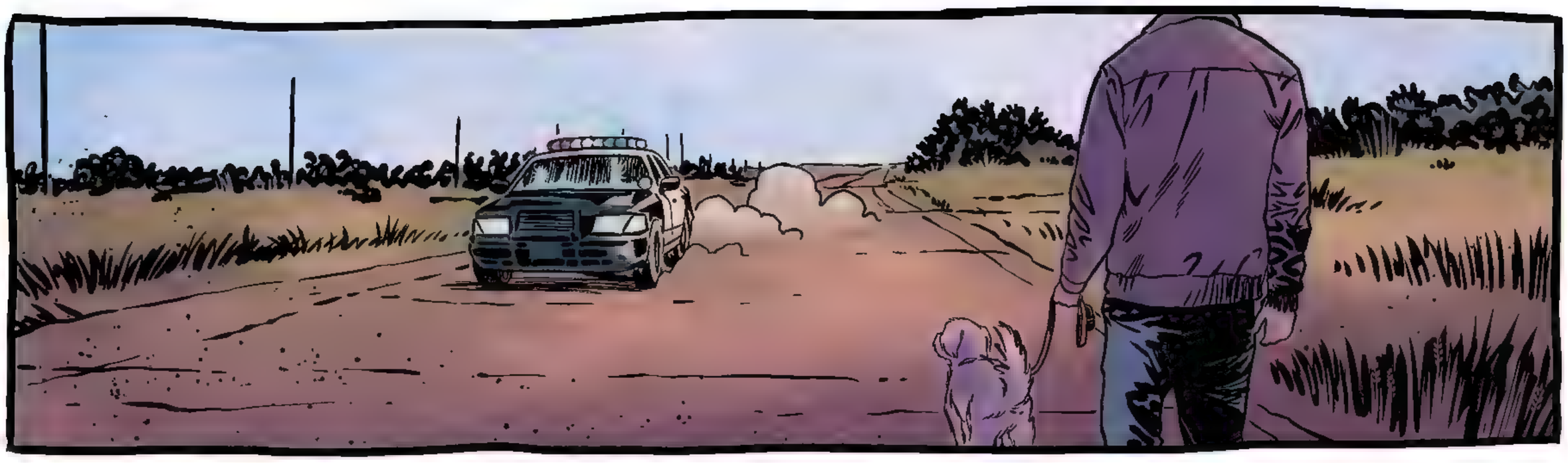
CROSSJACK.

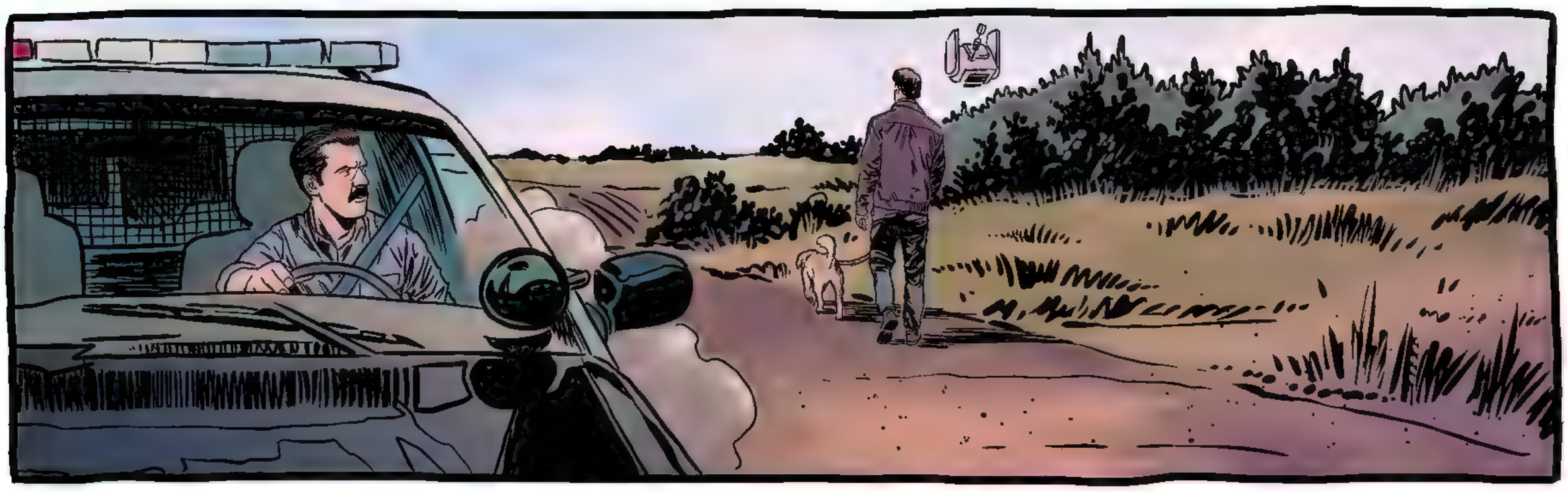
YOU WILL BE CLOSELY MONITORED TO ENSURE STRICT CODE ADHERENCE FOR THE TERM OF FORTY-EIGHT HOURS.

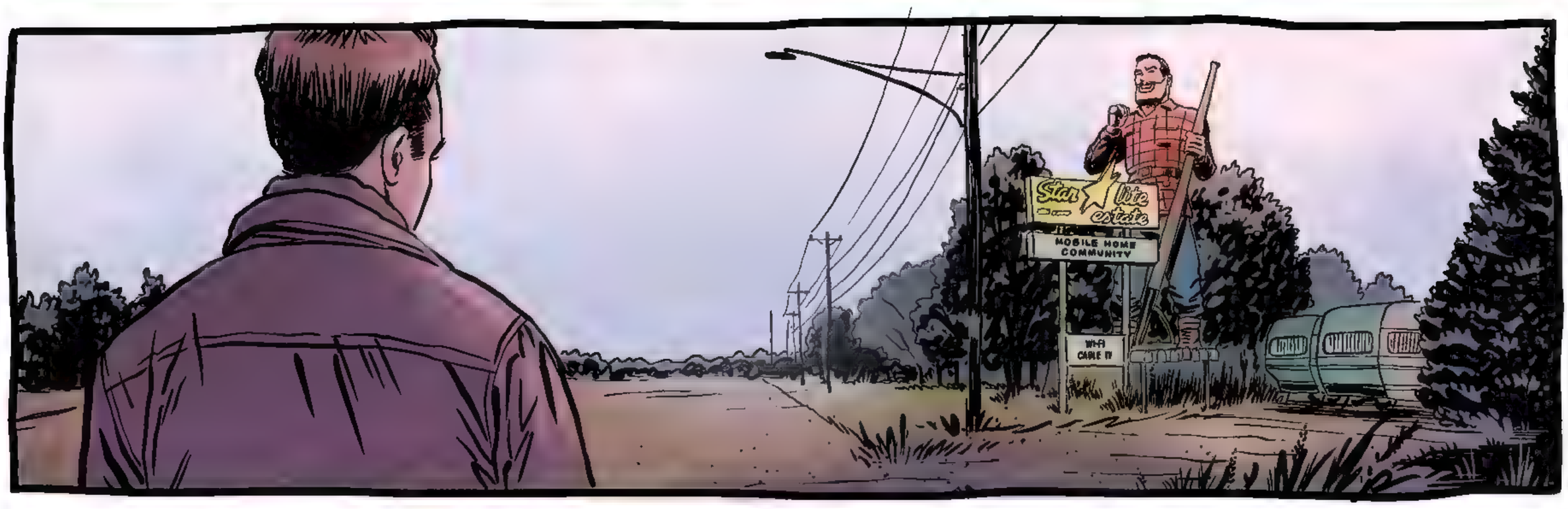
SO, IF I TAKE PEPPER FOR A WALK, YOU'LL FOLLOW ME?

CONFIRMED.

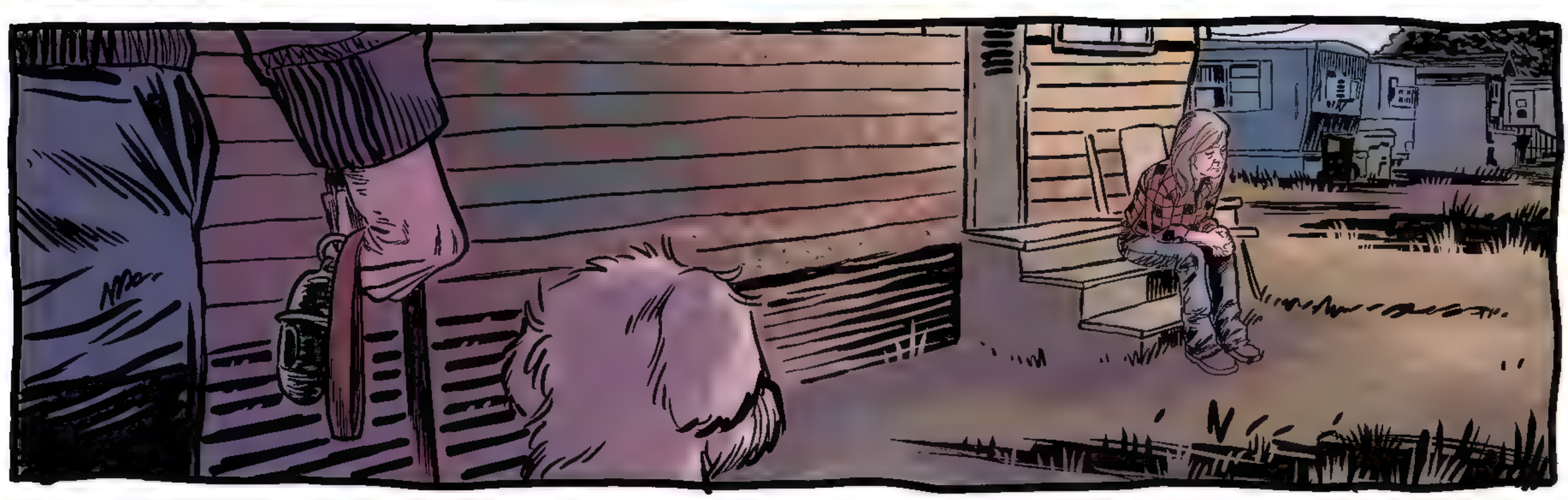
LEMME GET SOME PANTS ON.






MOBILE HOME COMMUNITY
WI-FI CABLE TV

COMMUNITY
VRRRRRRRRRRM
COME ON.
WI-FI CABLE TV

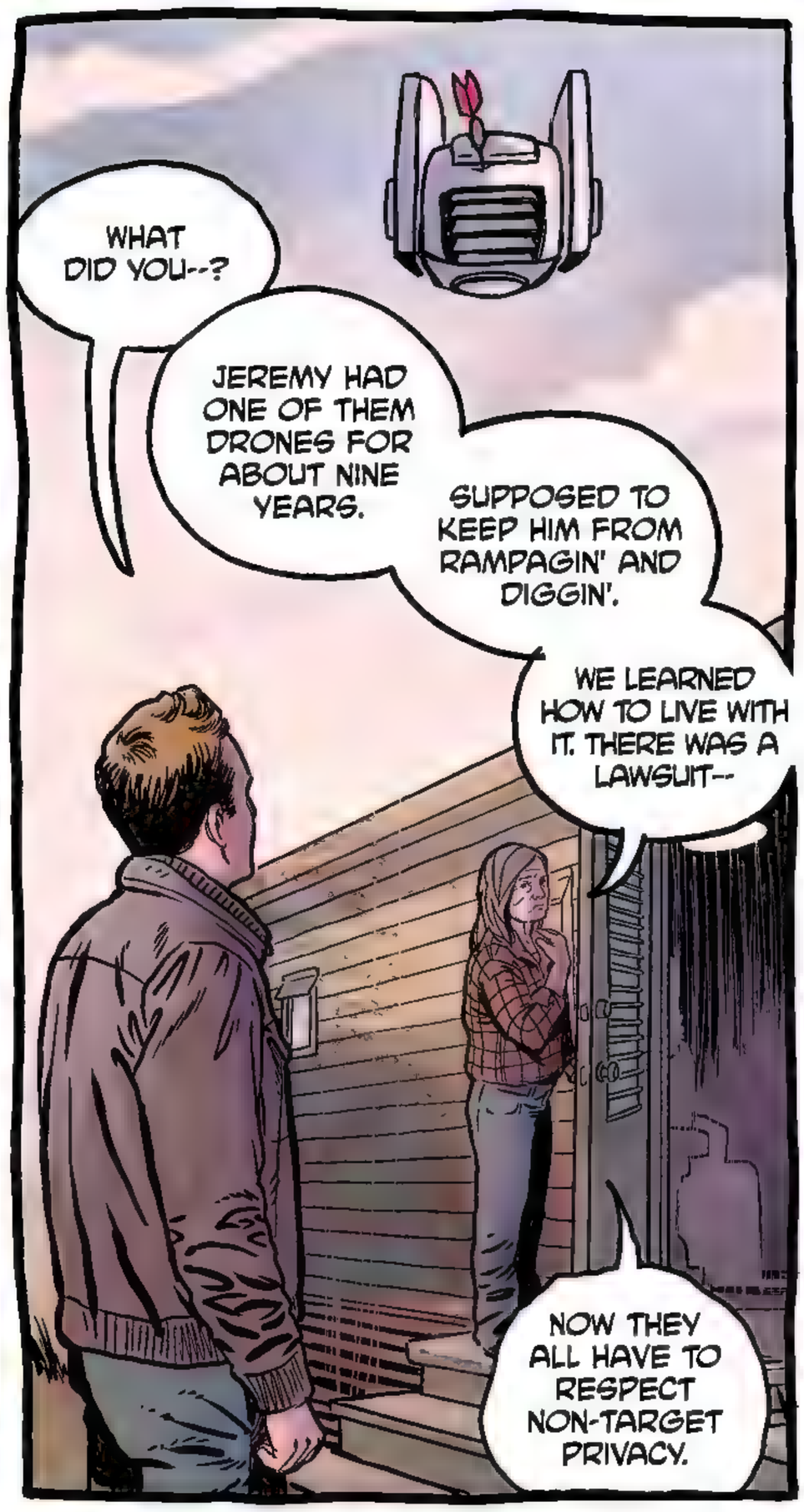


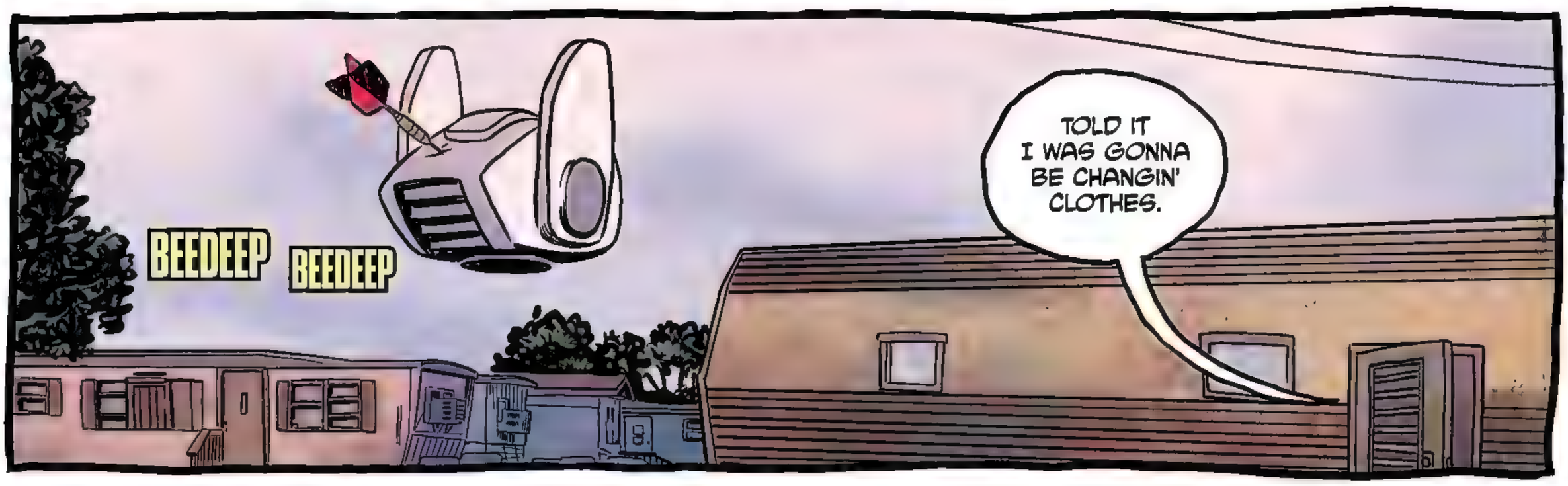
MS. OLSON? I SAW THAT COP WAS HERE.
I'M SORRY ABOUT HODAG...

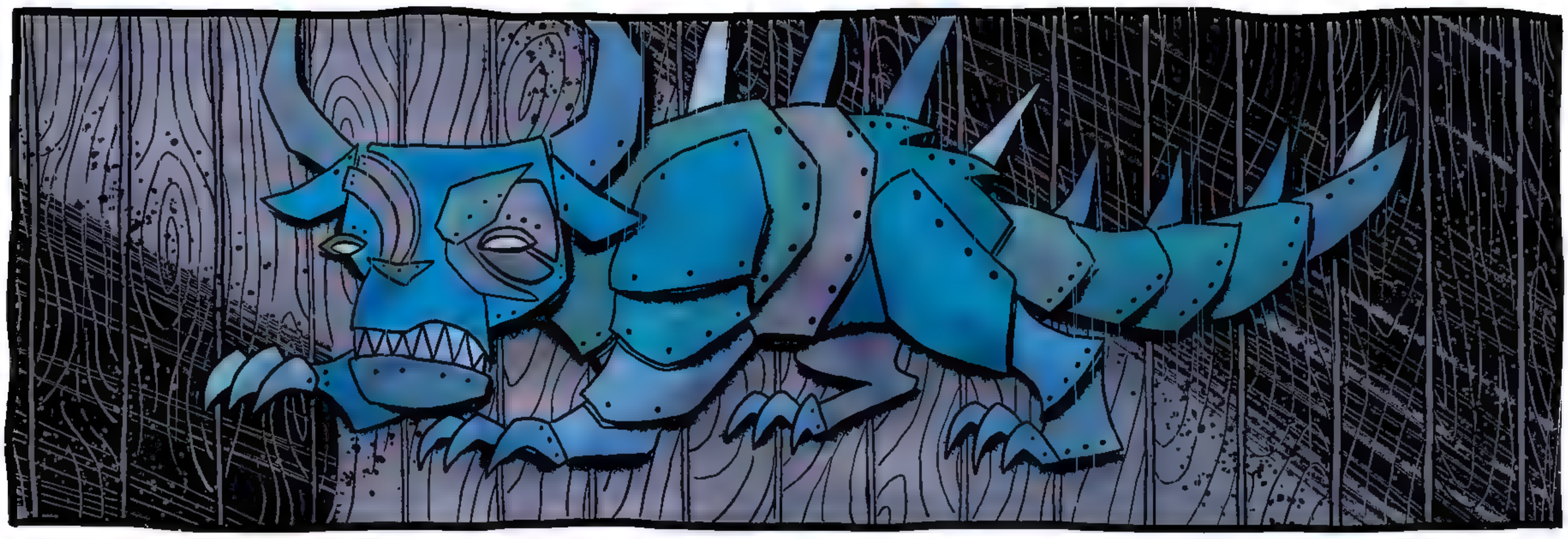
I'M SORRY ABOUT YOUR SON, BERENICE.

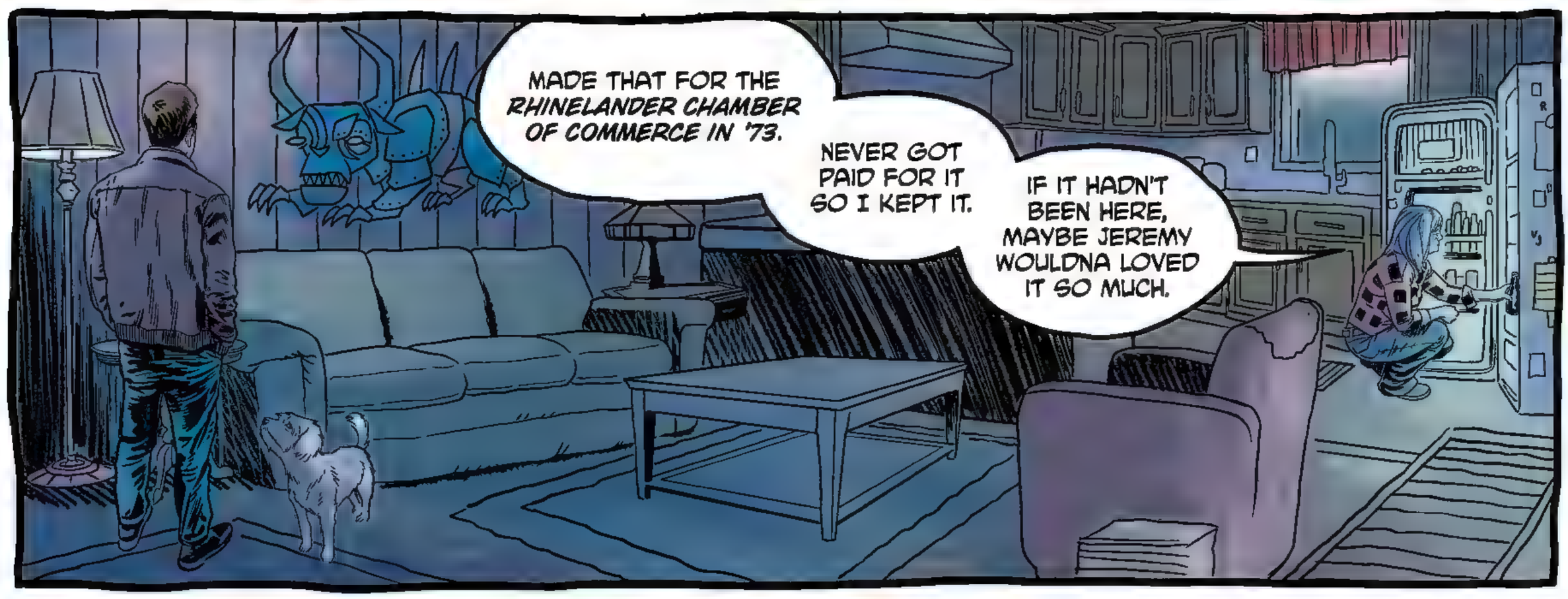
OH. LITTLE JACK XAVER.
NOT SO LITTLE ANYMORE N'SO?
SNF.
COME ON IN.
OH, I REALLY CAN'T. I HAVE THIS...

GENCORP N-FORCE.
ACCOMMODATION CODE 98731. STAY.
AFFIRMATIVE. STAYING.


WHAT DID YOU--?
JEREMY HAD ONE OF THEM DRONES FOR ABOUT NINE YEARS.
SUPPOSED TO KEEP HIM FROM RAMPAGIN' AND DIGGIN'.
WE LEARNED HOW TO LIVE WITH IT. THERE WAS A LAWSUIT--
NOW THEY ALL HAVE TO RESPECT NON-TARGET PRIVACY.


BEEDEEP
BEEDEEP
TOLD IT I WAS GONNA BE CHANGIN' CLOTHES.




MADE THAT FOR THE *RHINELANDER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN '73.*
NEVER GOT PAID FOR IT SO I KEPT IT.
IF IT HADN'T BEEN HERE, MAYBE JEREMY WOULDNA LOVED IT SO MUCH.

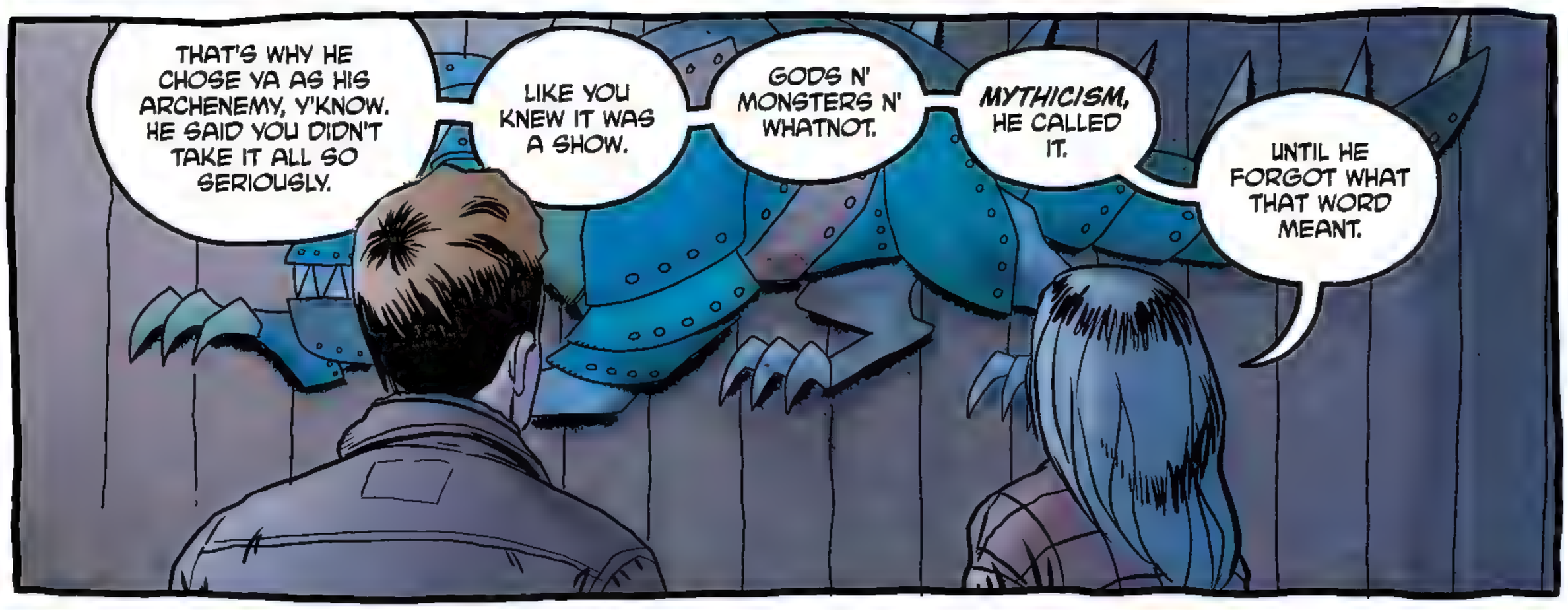
MAYBE HE'D A' NEVER NAMED HIMSELF AFTER THAT MONSTER.
HERE. THAT'S HOMEMADE ROOT BEER.
MS. OLSON. I'VE BEEN AWAY.
I THOUGHT JEREMY HAD STOPPED THE SUPERVILLAIN THING AFTER, YOU KNOW....

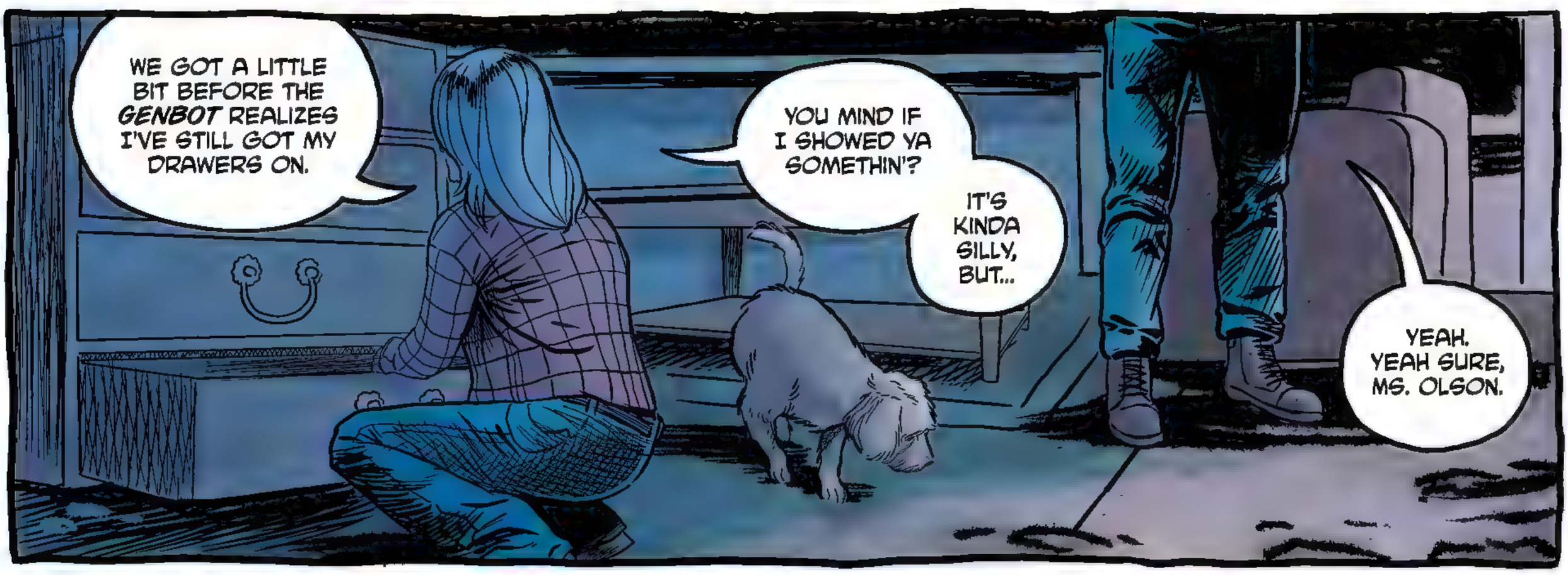
AFTER HE GOT HIS BRAIN PUNCHED IN?
YEAH. HE DID.
DESPITE IT ALL... DESPITE THE CONSTANT PAIN, THE UNEMPLOYMENT... DESPITE THAT GODDAMN BLUE SUIT STUCK TO HIS SKIN...
HE DID.

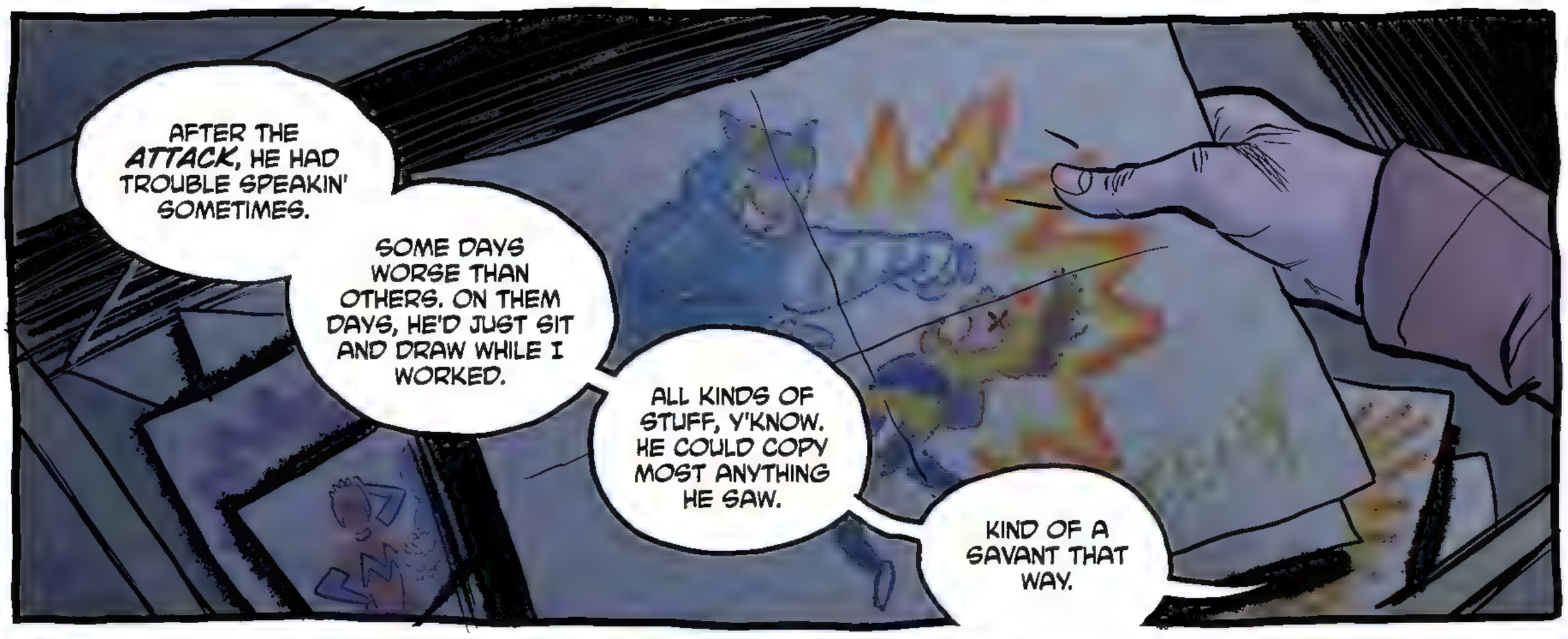
AND THEN HE DIDN'T.

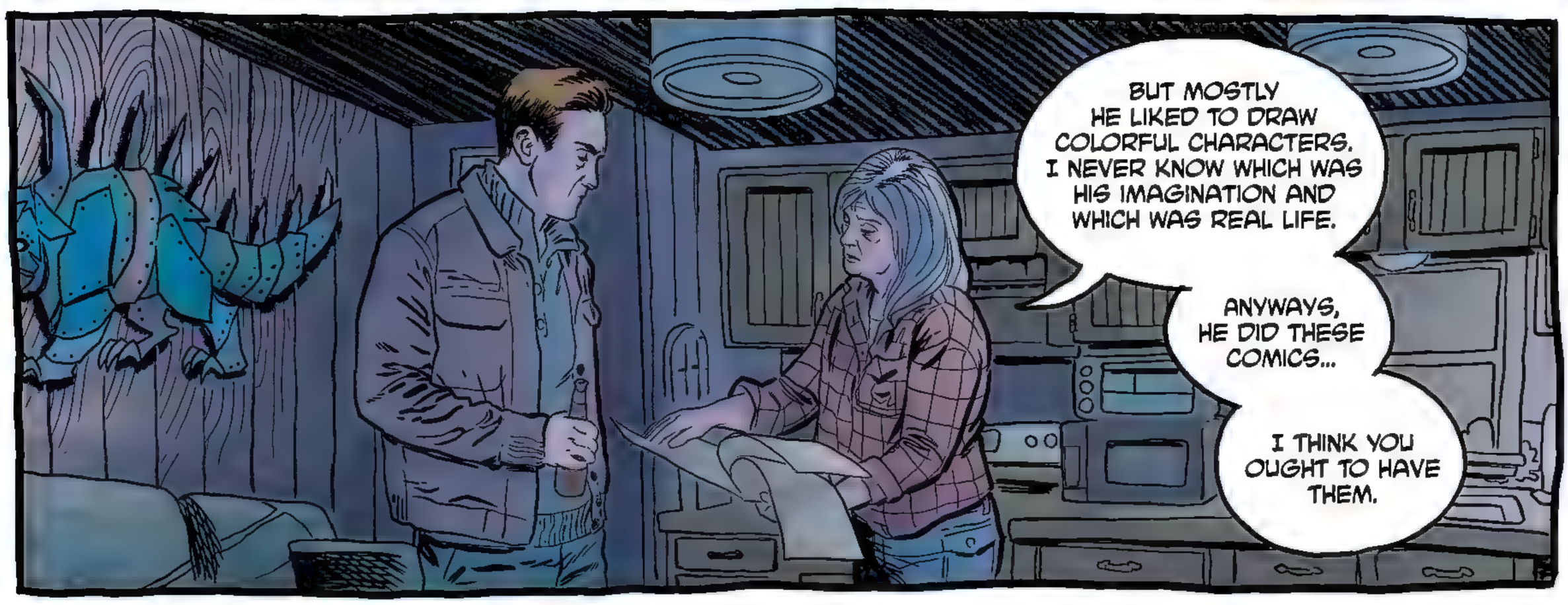
BERNI, LOOK, I KNOW HOW THE TIMING LOOKS.
I JUST NEED YOU TO KNOW--

KIDDO, I KNOW YOU DIDN'T KILL HIM.
YOU WOULDN'T HURT A FLEA.


THAT'S WHY HE CHOSE YA AS HIS ARCHENEMY, Y'KNOW. HE SAID YOU DIDN'T TAKE IT ALL SO SERIOUSLY.
LIKE YOU KNEW IT WAS A SHOW.
GODS N' MONSTERS N' WHATNOT.
MYTHICISM, HE CALLED IT.
UNTIL HE FORGOT WHAT THAT WORD MEANT.

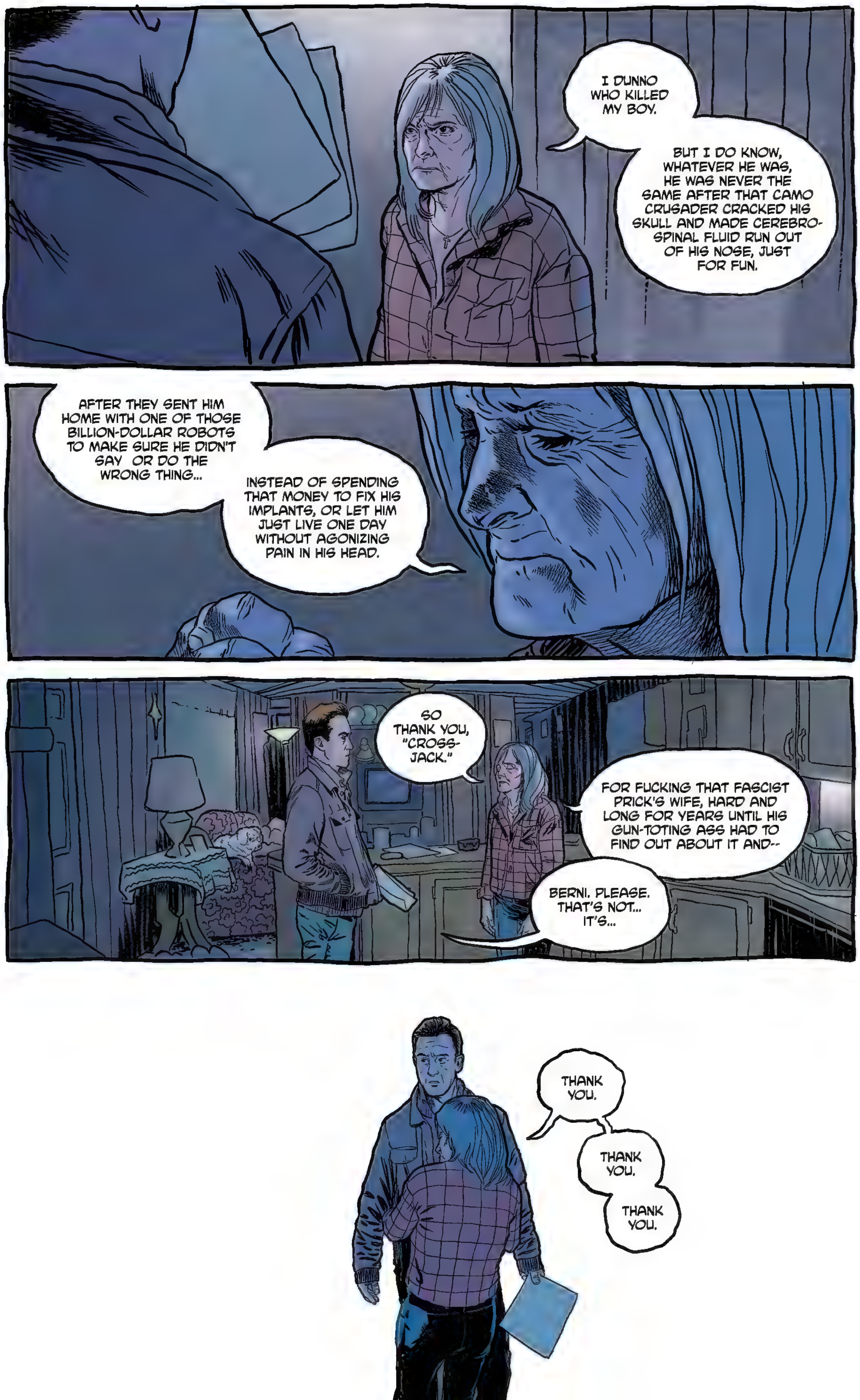

WE GOT A LITTLE BIT BEFORE THE GENBOT REALIZES I'VE STILL GOT MY DRAWERS ON.
YOU MIND IF I SHOWED YA SOMETHIN'?
IT'S KINDA SILLY, BUT...
YEAH. YEAH SURE, MS. OLSON.

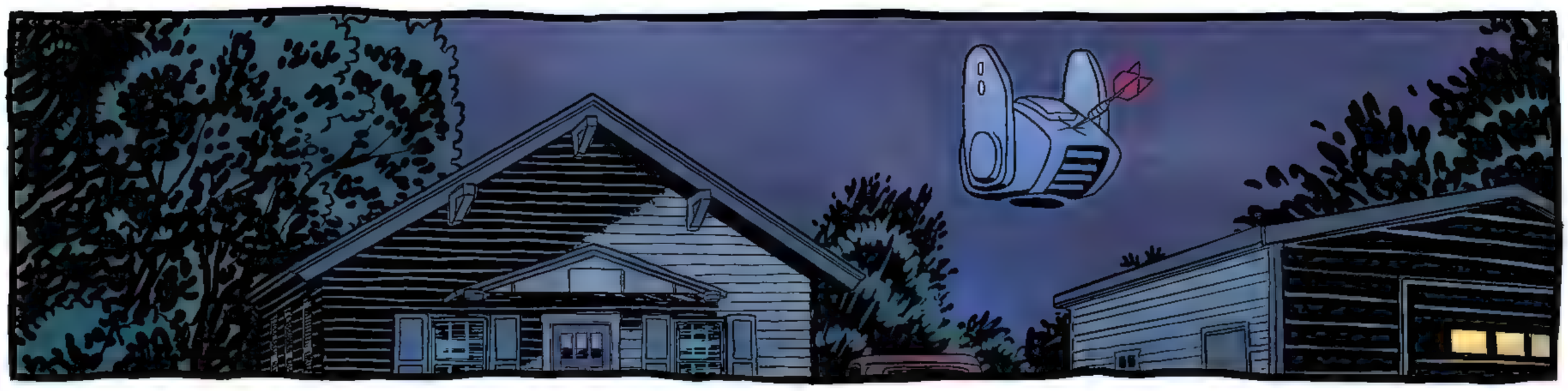

AFTER THE *ATTACK*, HE HAD TROUBLE SPEAKIN' SOMETIMES.
SOME DAYS WORSE THAN OTHERS. ON THEM DAYS, HE'D JUST SIT AND DRAW WHILE I WORKED.
ALL KINDS OF STUFF, Y'KNOW. HE COULD COPY MOST ANYTHING HE SAW.
KIND OF A SAVANT THAT WAY.

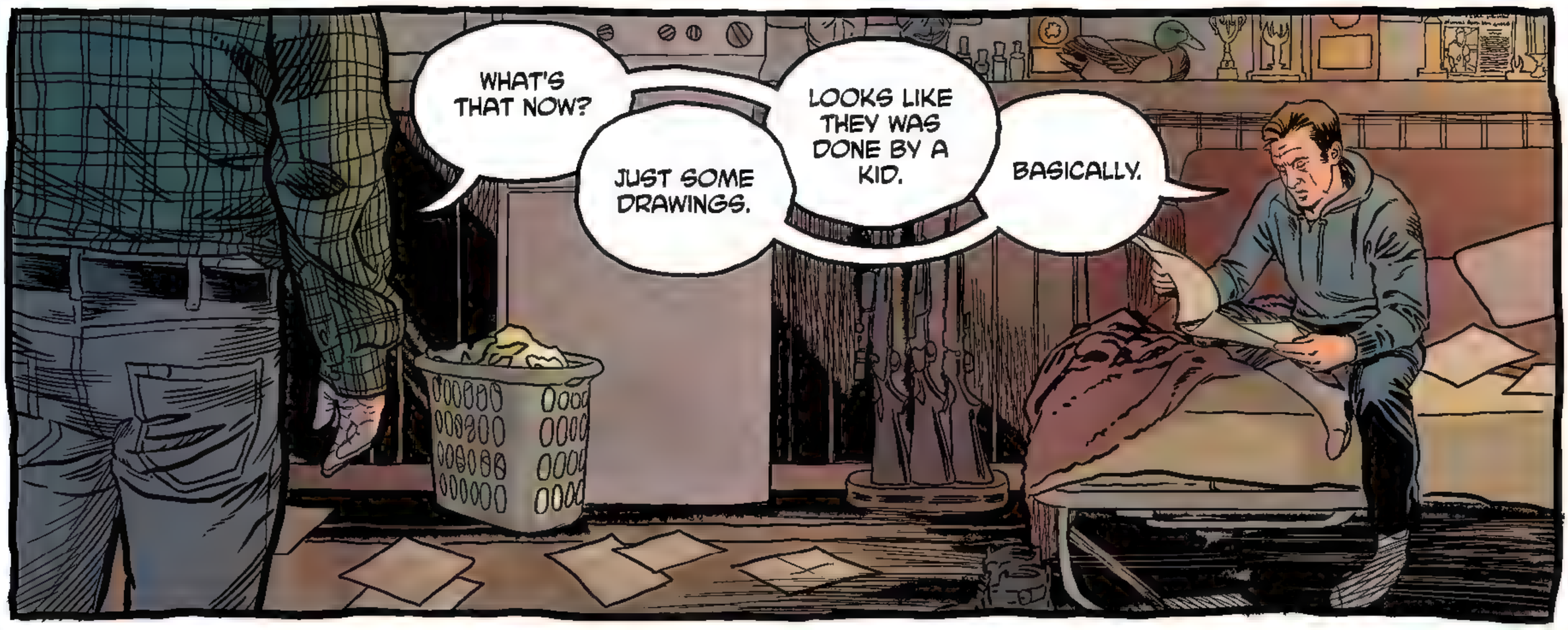

BUT MOSTLY HE LIKED TO DRAW COLORFUL CHARACTERS. I NEVER KNOW WHICH WAS HIS IMAGINATION AND WHICH WAS REAL LIFE.
ANYWAYS, HE DID THESE COMICS...
I THINK YOU OUGHT TO HAVE THEM.

CHILDISH, I KNOW.
SUPERHERO STUFF...

WOW. THANKS.
JACK. ONE MORE THING...


I DUNNO WHO KILLED MY BOY.
BUT I DO KNOW, WHATEVER HE WAS, HE WAS NEVER THE SAME AFTER THAT CAMO CRUSADER CRACKED HIS SKULL AND MADE CEREBRO-SPINAL FLUID RUN OUT OF HIS NOSE, JUST FOR FUN.
AFTER THEY SENT HIM HOME WITH ONE OF THOSE BILLION-DOLLAR ROBOTS TO MAKE SURE HE DIDN'T SAY OR DO THE WRONG THING...
INSTEAD OF SPENDING THAT MONEY TO FIX HIS IMPLANTS, OR LET HIM JUST LIVE ONE DAY WITHOUT AGONIZING PAIN IN HIS HEAD.
SO THANK YOU, "CROSS-JACK."
FOR FUCKING THAT FASCIST PRICK'S WIFE, HARD AND LONG FOR YEARS UNTIL HIS GUN-TOTING ASS HAD TO FIND OUT ABOUT IT AND--
BERNI. PLEASE. THAT'S NOT... IT'S...
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.

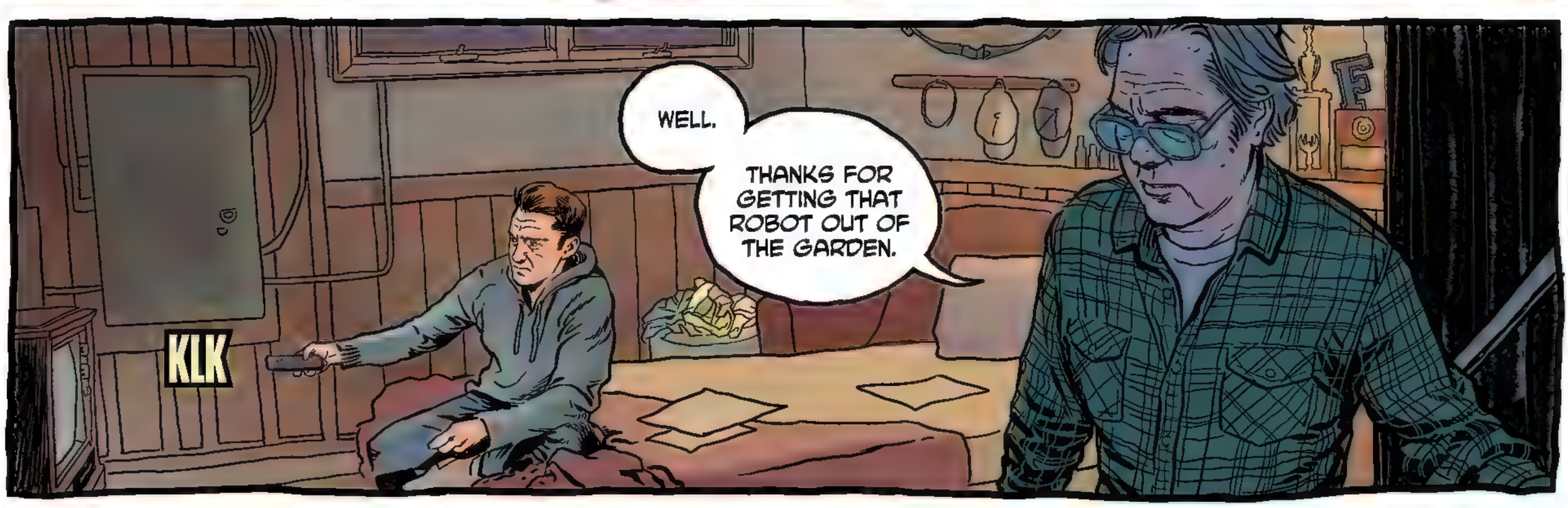



WHAT'S THAT NOW?
JUST SOME DRAWINGS.
LOOKS LIKE THEY WAS DONE BY A KID.
BASICALLY.

ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU WANTED TO DO WHEN YOU WAS LITTLE?
ART TEACHER?
YOU KNOW... BEFORE.

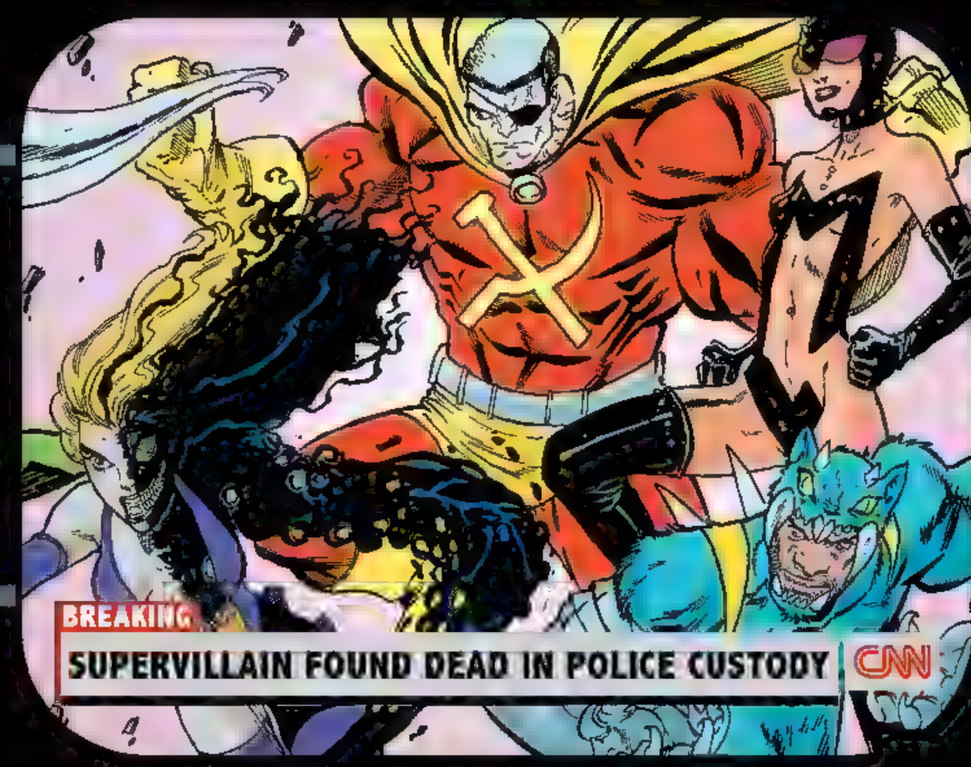
YOU MEAN BEFORE I COULD SINK EVERY BASKET, NAIL EVERY PASS, HIT EVERY TARGET--
BEFORE I GOT POWERS?
I DUNNO. I CAN'T EVEN REALLY REMEMBER ANYTHING BEFORE THAT.
THEY ASKED ME--
AT THE CO/OP, THEY ASKED ME WHAT YOU WERE PLANNING ON DOING NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE.

TELL THE GUYS AT THE CO/OP THEY'LL BE THE FIRST TO KNOW AS SOON AS I FIGURE IT OUT.
AH. WELL. Y'KNOW, YOUR MOM N' ME.
WE SAW ON THE TV NEWS. ABOUT OL' HODAG.
AND Y'KNOW... Y'KNOW...


WELL.
THANKS FOR GETTING THAT ROBOT OUT OF THE GARDEN.
KLK

...MINOR SUPERVILLAIN WAS FOUND DEAD IN HIS CELL THIS MORNING, AND AUTHORITIES ARE CALLING THE CAUSE OF DEATH SUSPICIOUS, THOUGH NO OTHER DETAILS HAVE BEEN RELEASED.

OLSON FIRST CAME TO PROMINENCE IN A SERIES OF VANDALISM-RELATED CRIMES ACROSS SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN BEFORE JOINING THE ***MEGA-MERCENARY*** GROUP CALLED ***THE DESOLATORS***....



...SWINGING FROM THE CELL CEILING, EH? REMIND YOU OF SOMEBODY ELSE? CUZ I'M THINKING THIS IS ANOTHER CASE OF THE GOVERNMENT TAKING OUT THE TRASH. AND YOU KNOW WHAT?

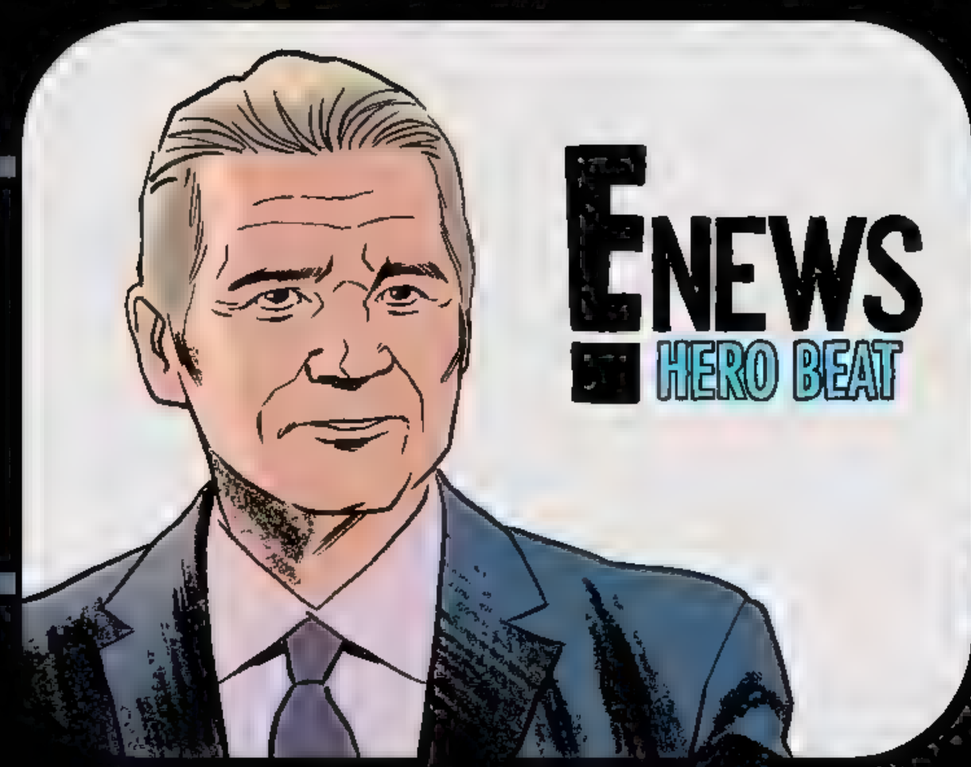
GOOD.

THIS GUY HODAG WAS SCUM. A TERRORIST. AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, WHOEVER ACED HIM AND THE OTHERS IS DOING YOU A FAVOR BY SAVING YOUR TAX DOLLARS.

CELL BLOCK HANGMAN FOR PRESIDENT!

...THE REAL STORY HERE IS THAT SOURCES ON THE INSIDE REVEALED JACK XAVER, AKA CROSSJACK, WAS CALLED IN FOR QUESTIONING. IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING HOW THE MIGHTY HAVE FALLEN?

RUMOR HAS IT THERE'S A SCARLET LETTER ON THE SCANDALOUS MR. JACK'S FOREHEAD NOW. SO SCARLET HE GOT KICKED FROM THE HALLOWED HALLS OF THIRD GEN HQ BACK TO A DINGY ONE-STOPLIGHT TOWN IN FLYOVER COUNTRY.



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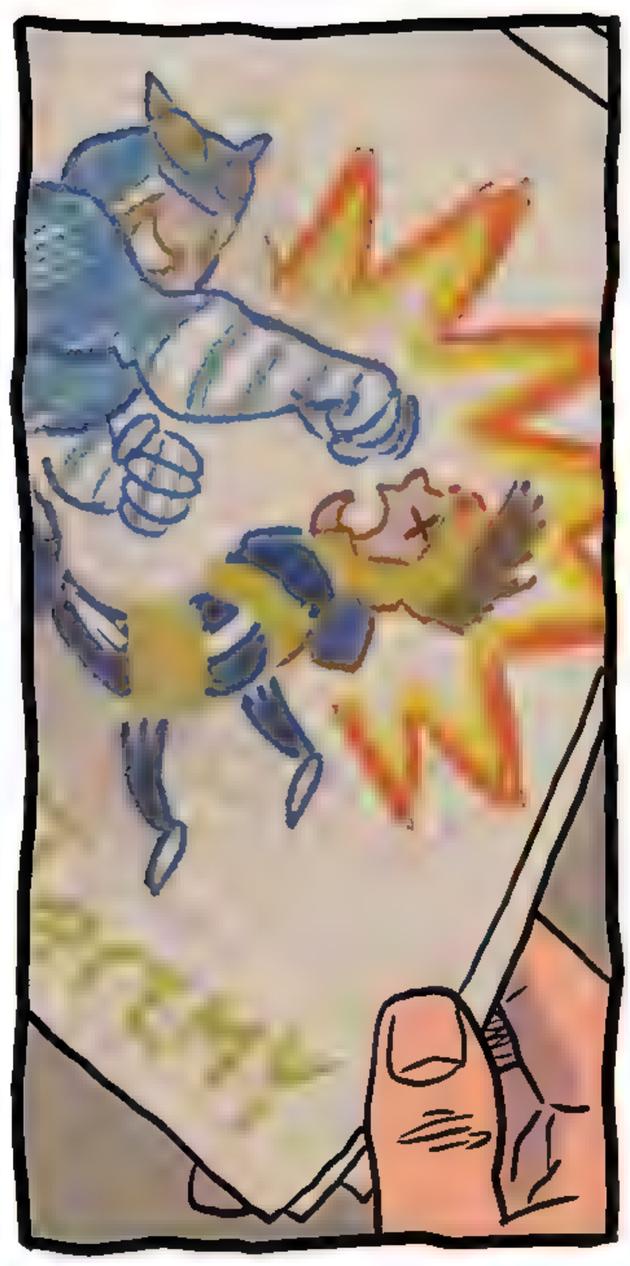
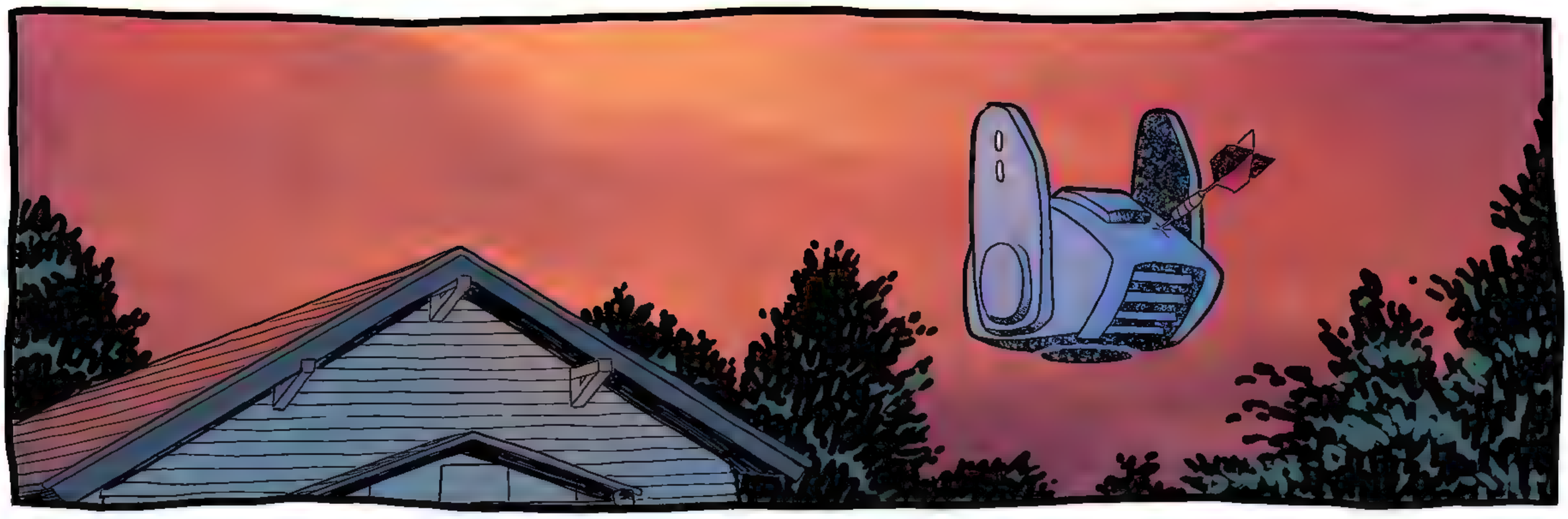


CONSTRUCTORS
OF
APHEK
MEMPHIS

APHEK.

THERE.
THAT'S IT.
THE APHEK ENGINE!

NOT IF
THE DESOLATE



CROSSJACK:
YOU ARE IN VIOLATION OF CODE 1297 OF THE FIRST GEN CHARTER.

YOU ARE PROHIBITED FROM ANY SORT OF CRIMEFIGHTING,
INVESTIGATnkz--
THUNK
ACCOMMODATION CODE 98731.

STAY.
KZZREASSZZKKK

DON'T WORRY.
I'LL KEEP TO MY OWN BUSINESS.
TO BE CONTINUED

image info

BLAH, BLAH, BLAH 359

So, a question that comes up a lot in interviews and comic con panels is: 'are their any properties that you'd just KILL to work on?' And it's an interesting question because... Sure. We're all fans before we're creators. I feel like I probably fan out harder than a lot of comics professionals I know-- I'm still Wednesdays in the shops, midnight movie screenings on opening night, buy it on 4k Bluray even if it's streaming, hardcovers even if I have the issues... I'm what nice people would call an enthusiast.

But that question: What properties would I KILL to work on? Well, this is one of them. Stray Dogs was another. The next two Image books that are in the hopper that you don't know about yet? Those are other books I'd just KILL to work on.

Ever since I had my brain warped by my first Image comic (Youngblood Strikefile #2. Shoutout to my dark lord and savior, Jae Lee,) all I could think about was making my own comics. Not just making them, but making comics that were 100% me. Even as a kid, I felt like I could sense a difference between a book someone drew for work and a book they drew for themselves. You like Erik Larsen on Spider-man? Wait until you see Savage Dragon! Think Sam Kieth's Wolverine is cool? The Maxx is 100x crazier! For me, in almost every case, the unconstrained creator owned book is gonna hit me harder than a work for hire job. And don't get me wrong I love big two comics (current favorites off the top of my head: Greg Pak's Darth Vader and Rainbow Rowell's She-Hulk) But for me, there's nothing like the freedom of an Image comic. Favorite Todd McFarlane comic? Spawn. Favorite BKV comic? Paper Girls. Favorite David Lapham? Stray Bullets.

Anyway, now I'm just listing comics I love. The point is: There's nothing like the freedom of creator owned comics and I'm grateful we get to make this one here.

-Tony Fleecs

STRAY DOGS
Tony's Image Comics hit about dogs, murder, and memory. This is the one where he showed us all he could do more than My Little Pony. Part noir, part horror, part Don Bluth. Co-created and drawn by Trish Forstner with colors by Local Man's own Brad Simpson!

REVIVAL
Tim's horror-noir about his own hometown, and what happens when the dead come back to life there. It's weird, dark, and kinda personal. Co-created and with art by the great Mike Norton.

HACK/SLASH
Tim's long running (almost 20 years?!) slasher comic about the horror hunters Cassie Hack, and Vlad with co-creator Stefano Caselli, and a host of co-creators. Sexy, exploitive, gory, and always heartfelt. Available in a variety of formats but check out the super sexy Hack/Slash ominbi.

LOADED BIBLE
A series that ONLY Image would publish, about a clone of Jesus who fights vampires and an authoritarian theocracy in the future, conceived of by Tim and his brother Steve. Yeah, Eric Stephenson is still Tim's hero for picking this up. There's also a great sequel written by Steve Orlando.

HEXWARE
Tim's other new Image series with artist Zulema Scotto, featuring a housemaid android who BUYS a soul for the Devil. It's on sale now!

TORRENT
Brutal superhero action from Justin Greenwood, Marc Guggenheim and Rico Renzi. Issue 1 in stores now!

RADIANT BLACK
Our buddies Kyle Higgins and Marcelo Costa do this awesome superhero series that feels more like the original line of Image superheroes than just about any other comic.

EIGHT BILLION GENIES
Ryan Browne and Charles Soule's smash-hit, wish come true masterpiece wraps up this month. Image has kept all the issues in print, so grab all 8 and binge read them!

INFIDEL
A pretty terrifying horror comic by our friends Aaron Campbell and Pornsak Pichetshote. This thing is usually on lists of greatest horror stories ever.

SAVAGE DRAGON
As far as we're concerned, the gold standard of creator owned superhero books. Brutal, sexy, funny, and ever-changing. We all want to be Erik Larsen.

BURNOUTS
Back before the pandemic, our buddy Dennis Culver (Unstoppable Doom Patrol,) co-created this X-Files meets Half Baked thriller. Have your shop order the TPB if you missed it. Stoners v. space invaders!

Images of
LOCALMAN
Tone Rodriguez
with BRIAN REBER

FARMINGTON, WE GOTTA SAY, WE LIKE THE WAY YOU GROW YOUR HEROES.
THAT'S WHY, AS PART OF DRAFTING CROSSJACK TO THIRD GEN...
WE'D LIKE TO ANNOUNCE GROUNDBREAKING ON THIS STATE-OF-THE-ART 4TH GEN TRAINING FACILITY!
WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE GREAT STATE OF WISCONSIN...
WE'RE BRINGING THE FUTURE TO YOUR TOWN, AND JACK XAVER TO "HERO SCHOOL."
HOMETOWN HERO!
WOW.
THANKS, MR. CRUSADER.
I'M A BIG FAN. REALLY. THIS IS SO COOL--
THE LAST THING THIS TOWN NEEDS IS MORE DO-GOODERS, JACK!
INCOMING!

YOU'RE BREAKING GROUND?
HODAG'S GONNA BREAK NEON'S PRETTY FACE!
NEON! PUT DOWN A GLOW-GAS FIELD AND--
NO, I GOT IT.
GOOD! IT'S YOU I WANTED, 'JACK!
AW, 'DAG. IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D SAY YOU WERE FLIRTIN'!
WHICH, WHILE I APPRECIATE IT--
I'M A ONE-WOMAN TYPE A' GUY...
WHICH MEANS I DON'T GET AROUND!

--THE HECK?
TOK
THOK
TAK
WAUUGH!
FWUMP
DID YOU SEE THAT, *INGA?*
BABY...
EVERYONE SAW IT.
YOU WERE INCREDIBLE!
HI. *DAN CHAN.* THIRD GEN PUBLIC RELATIONS.
OH! HI! UH, SORRY ABOUT THAT--
NO, THAT WAS GREAT. THEY LOVED IT.
I DON'T EVEN NEED TO TAKE A SNAP POLL. I CAN TELL.

SO, HERE'S WHAT I'M THINKING, WE GO RIGHT TO THE NATIONAL EXPOSURE.
BIG FIGHTS. BIG ACTION.
I MEAN, HE LOOKS SO GOOD DOING IT, RIGHT?
WHY NOT DO IT 'WIDESCREEN'?
FIRST, I'LL BOOK YOU A TEAM-UP.
SOMEONE EDGY TO BOOST YOUR URBAN STREET CRED.
JACK?
I THINK WE COULD GET SHADOWHAWK.
JACK?
WHAT ABOUT... US?
NEXT ISSUE:
FALLEN HEAVENS
PART 11 OF A 16-PART MEGA-EVENT!

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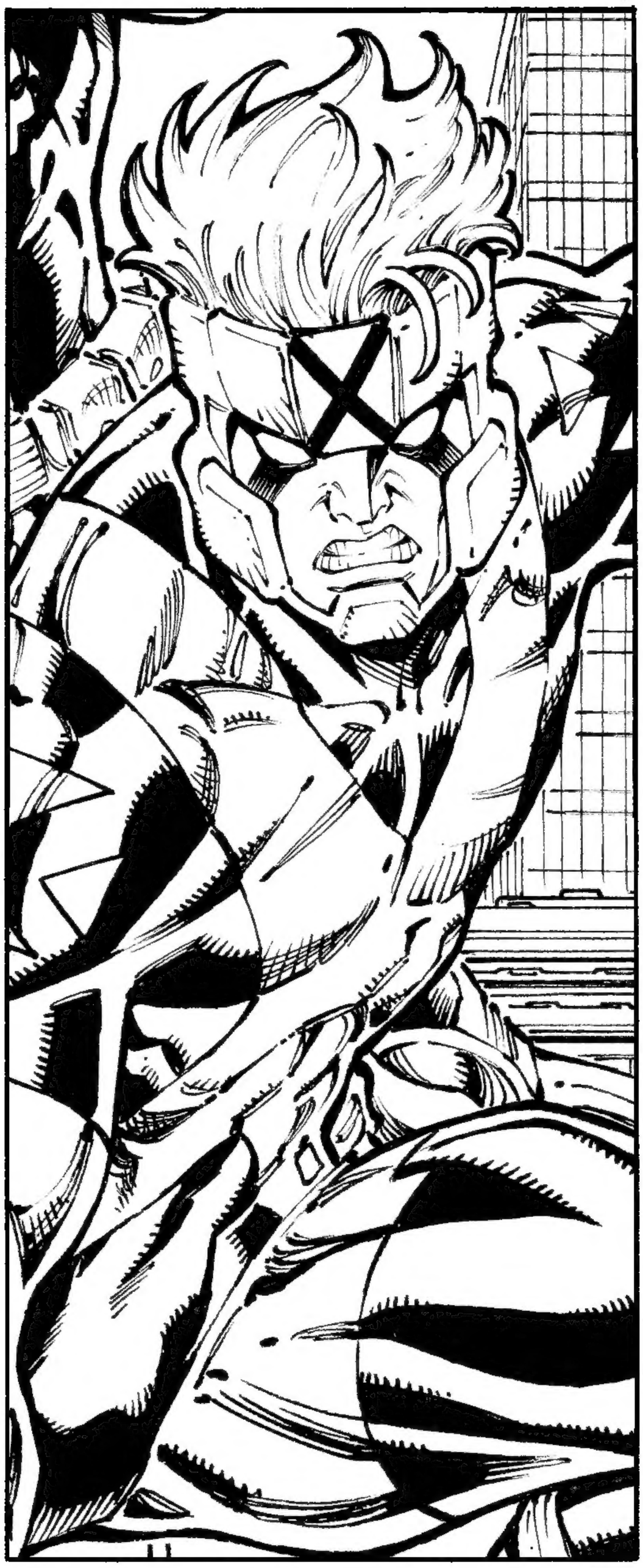
"LOCAL MAN"



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TONY FLEECS
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CRACKING SPINES WITH SHADOWHAWK

COVER A
TIM SEELEY AND TONY FLEECS

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